

Belgian Laces



"Diederik van Elzas, Count of Flanders"
carrying the H. Blood Relic in the Holy Blood Procession in Brugge

BELGIAN LACES

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Our principal objective is:

Keep the Belgian Heritage alive in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity

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Dear Members,

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!!! the spring bulbs are blooming, even here with our 3500' elevation, and the late spring snowstorms have not been able to discourage the flowers nor the birds, that both display their beautiful spring colors!

The Belgian Embassy in Washington, DC sent us valuable information for all of you who will be traveling to Belgium this summer. We know of several groups the Peninsula-Belgian-American Club (info through Mary-Ann Defnet, Green Bay, WI) plans a trip to Wallonia + some other countries (see Mary Ann's Wisconsin Corner) and a local travel agent here in Bend is planning a trip to Flanders and Brabant. The highlights of this trip are visits to several Belgian breweries and distilleries, besides visits to two chocolat "factories" and of course not to forget the "normal" tourists stops at Cathedrals, Castles and Begijnhoven. In Brugge they take a boat tour on the Minnewater and even enjoy a true Renaissance Dinner in one of the many fantastic restaurants that Belgium has to offer everywhere. Deadline for application for the latter is June 5.- Both of these trips are planned for October 1998. For more information on the Flanders tour, contact us per fax, telephone, email or 'snail-mail'.

Unfortunately Pierre and I won't be able to accompany either tour.... we just returned from Belgium a few weeks ago. It was a trip like a lifetime capsule we met the first great-great grand nephew in the family, helped celebrate a wedding, a 50th anniversary, and - shared the sorrow of the family of my sister, who passed away unexpectedly in February. Birth, marriage, 50th anniversary, death ... a whole life's cycle, all that in three weeks! We felt very fortunate to be able to participate in it all.

A glitch occurred in the collation of the February issue - It happened at the printers some of the Belgian Laces sent in February missed pages 1,2 - 23. 24. They had been mailed before the mistake was noticed. We apologize for this and will send the missing pages as soon as we know who got "shortchanged". Please check the last issue (yellow cover, picture of the Giants of Beloeil) and let us know.

We have the pleasure of welcoming again a good number of new members. We hope they will find the information and the help they need in their genealogical research. We would like to thank all of you who have sent articles and lists for publication. It is that kind of collaboration that makes our organization great.

Wishing you all a great summer, nice family reunions and regional picnics, bon voyage to all who will go traveling and lots of luck in your family research.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

736	Albert Van Puyvelde	Moline, IL
737	Juanita Gerling	Versailles, OH
738	Bill Van Bergen	Campbell River, BC, Canada
739	Mary Bleacher	Denver, CO
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750	Roy C. Deopere	Scottsdale, AZ
751	Rita Van Den Huvel-Devroy	De Pere, WI

TCHANTCHÈS

by Donald Barbezat

Tchantchès (François) is a local legend in Liège. He was born in a miraculous way on the 25th of August 760. He came to life on that date between, two cobble stones on the island of Outre-Meuse in the middle of the Meuse River which flows through the city of Liege. Actually, Outre-Meuse (Djus-d'la Mouse) declared itself to be a free republic in 1927, but that's another story for another time.

The brave citizens of Outre-Meuse who found young Tchantchès were dumbfounded to hear him singing at the top of his lungs, "Allons, la mère Gaspard, encore un verre!". For those of you who have lived a sedate life and never imbibed at the local tavern, this is an old drinking song calling on Mother Gaspard who owns the tavern to serve up another round of drinks.

This chubby cheeked child was constantly thirsty, but always laughing, although he went into a frown and pouted at the very sight of water. To make him happy, his foster father gave him a biscuit dunked in peket (a kind of gin) and fed him salted herring which resulted in someone with an unquenchable thirst for the rest of his life.

Like all those who are predestined for greatness, Tchantchès had his set-backs early in life. At his baptism, the midwife bumped his nose so hard on the rim of the baptismal basin that his nose started to grow beyond measure to the point that the poor child became a victim of ridicule from those who saw him: They even used him as a model for the carnival masks.

Because of his Cyrano-like nose, Tchantchès hesitated at first to go play with the other children, but it wasn't long before his sense of justice and freedom led him to face the world. He even offered to do the Saint-Macrawe (That is to be coated in soot and carried on a chair escorted by all of the children of the neighborhood). This memorable event took place on the eve of Assumption in 770.

His was a most successful triumph and he soon realized that like the Hunchback of Notre Dame, you can be ugly, but with a beautiful spirit and a loving soul you can be loved by everyone. Since that day he was crowned The Prince of Djus d'la Mouse. (You must be patient with the author for some terms are best expressed in the Walloon dialect of Liege, but I will attempt to explain them at least once as we go along).

Tchantchès gives expression to the very spirit that has been incorporated into the Liege City charter since the 12th century which guarantees that "le pauvre homme en sa maison est roi" (the poor man in his home is king). First and foremost Liège is a city of rebels. It has in fact, well earned its nickname, La Cité Ardente (the hot-blooded city).

Tchantchès, dressed in his blue smock, with patched trousers, a tasseled floppy hat and a red scarf is the spokesman of the



streets, grumbling at just about everything in sight while championing every noble cause in sight just as your average, everyday Liégeois. But since Tchantchès is only a puppet, he can say the most outrageous things and criticize the most important persons without any serious repercussions.

Tchantchès went on to great and glorious accomplishments as the constant companion of Charlemagne and his nephew, Roland. He had told Roland to stay with him so that he could protect him, but Roland went off on his own and was slain by the Saracens. It was a heartbroken Tchantchès who stood with Charlemagne as they contemplated the brave, but foolish Roland whose exploits are memorialized in the famous 'Chansons de Roland.' After having avenged Roland's death at the battle of Zaragoza he returned to his beloved Liège despite the Emperor Charlemagne's protests.

Here in the center of Liège, he lives today, immortalized with a statue of him at the exact location of his birth. The statue was done by Joseph Zomers and shows Wallonia in the form of a heroic mother figure who holds up Tchantchès as a flame of liberty.

Just down the street there is a museum dedicated to him with shows him with all of his costumes, medals, diplomas and other honors which he has received much as his contemporary the Mannekin-Pis in Brussels has received.

Tchantchès is alive and well and living in the heart of every Liégeois today. He is still the champion of the down trodden, the poor and the common man. He still speaks out against hypocrisy, bureaucracy, oppressive government and his sharp nose has punctured many a pompous person.

Long Live Tchantchès!

<http://www.fgfw.be/rlom/>

<http://www.tchantches.be/rlom.htm>

DEBISSCHOP FAMILY REUNION

A reunion of the descendants of Dominicus and Anna Carolina (Goossens) De Bisschop of Zele, Oost Vlaanderen will be held at Watertown, CT on 22 August 1898. Contact Howard A. DeBisschop, 516 Page Ave., Loch Arbour, NJ. 07711. - (Tel. 732-531-2939 - e-mail: Pagers4@aol.com).

BELGIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF WEST VIRGINIA

Submitted by Vicke Zabeau Bowden,

Correspondent/ Treasurer

The Belgian-American Heritage Society of West Virginia held its annual luncheon meeting on Saturday, 14 March at Raymon's Restaurant in Clarksburg, WV. The weather was cool but sunny and we enjoyed a nice turn-out of members, relatives and guests. There was a brief business meeting followed by the reading of correspondence. The members have appreciated the support of the Belgian Researchers, Inc. and the fact that they include the announcements of our meetings in the publication Belgian Lacess. We thank them for all the help and support-

The next meeting of the Belgian-American Heritage Society of WV will be on Sunday, 3 May 1998 at 2.00 PM at the Waldomore Historical Society Building in Clarksburg. On the agenda is a discussion of the planning of our yearly picnic and the presentation of videos about Belgium, followed by the serving of our own Belgian delicacies.

Come One and All!

Processions and Pilgrimages throughout Belgium

by Leen Inghels

In a traditional society there is nothing, no individual, no happening, that can stand completely on its own. The universe, mankind, material things, religion and daily activities all together make up the perceived reality of a community. The interaction of the different “values” influences each other and shapes thoughts and traditions. And traditional “happenings” are a result, and an expression of this osmosis, the very fabric for Folklore.

A good dose of popular beliefs have penetrated the Christian rites, legends and celebrations. For the common people, Faith was often too theoretical, too strict, too confining; too far removed from the daily needs of the little man who needed a more practical religion, one he could understand. And thus popular beliefs extended Christian belief through the use of traditions which stood closer to the people.

Natural forces were often frightening and seldom understood. Where and how did storms originate that devastated fields and crops, burned homes, killed people and animals, that send lightning and thunder, drought and floods? Official scientific explanations didn't help them at all... so during thunderstorms or bad weather the family read the gospel of Saint John; a white chalked cross on top of the house front kept evil at a distance and the palm twig blessed during Palm Sunday Mass would protect the fruits of the earth.

There were numerous events in daily life that were not understood and for which there was no explanation. Illnesses, epidemics (like the bubonic plague), yes, even a simple flu or a bronchitis could be deadly up to World War II. When the doctors could not bring help, one turned to Mary or to one of the many saints, who according to Catholic beliefs, were to intercede between men and God.

Belgium has always been a very religious country, its inhabitants very faithful. All over Belgium the Virgin Mary is adored and called upon in a myriad of different forms: Our Lady of Flanders, of Foy, Halle, Hasselt, of Lochristi, of Tongre (in Hainaut, not to be confused with Tongeren in Limburg); Our Lady of Assistance, of the Poor, of Consolation, of Mercy. She enjoys the sweetest names: The Star of the Sea, Our Life, our Hope, Gate to Heaven, Sea of wisdom ... Many pilgrimages were held to one of her shrines, usually where it was believed that she either had appeared, or had performed miracles; Scherpenheuvel, Tournai, Tongre-Notre-Dame, Hasselt, Zoutleeuw and many more. Each local had its own ways of adoration, often, it was believed, prescribed by the Virgin herself ... be it to ask for help, for healing, to become pregnant (or NOT) or for a healthy baby. The number 9 seems to play a miraculous role: one went 9 consecutive Sundays to the pilgrimage place. (on foot!) and walked 9 times around the church or the altar (sometimes even on your knees...) The Belgian countryside has numerous little chapels dedicated to the Virgin Mary and in the cities many a streetcorner has a statue of Mary in a small niche especially built for the purpose.

Next to the Virgin Mary there is a heaven-full of saints that are supposed to help in many varied situations: St. Anthony for lost objects. St. Christopher for the wayfarer, and some for very specific ailments, often the illness or situation for

which they were called upon, was based on the life and experiences of the saint him/herself, so Job, who was covered with ulcers, was invoked for cure of ulcers; St. Rochus was initially called upon during the plague epidemics, later when this plague was eradicated, he was to help for other epidemics. For headaches one prayed to St John the Baptist. because he had lost his head ... Besides these well known saints, there are numerous “local” saints, that have their own holidays, their own processions and often even their own pilgrimages.

At the risk that someone will comment that I omitted talking about ‘their’ saint and the traditions there around, I would like to present solely a kaleidoscope of the most important processions and pilgrimages in Belgium.

The procession in Andenne (Wallonia), that takes place the second Sunday in September, is an example of many others in the Walloon region: they are founded on one or the other old tradition, are dignified and quiet and are usually connected with a saint who often was responsible for the development of the place in early medieval times and thus became patron saint of the village or city. In the 9th and 10th centuries and even earlier, the villages (cities) established a “Noble Chapter of Secular Canonesses” to watch over the grave of the patron saint and to ensure that his/her memorial was observed.

Still in Wallonia, only in the area between the rivers Sambre and Meuse, and Charleroi-Gosselies there are important “marches”: in Thuin the one for St. Roches (1st and 2nd Sunday in May); in Gerpinnes of St. Roland (Rolend?) (Monday of Pentecost); in Fosses of St. Feuillen (once every 7 years on the last Sunday in September); in Walcourt of the St. Trinity (the first Sunday after Pentecost). There are about 40 communities involved in these marches with a combined “army” of around 5000 people. They may march in one mass performance or in groups of 75 to 1500. Once one “marches” it will be from early childhood until old age will keep one from it. The “army” consists of companies and “squads” dressed in Empire-style uniforms. There are squads of grenadiers, Swiss Guards and rifle men, who take care

of the gun salutes when necessary and appropriate.

A march takes three days:

on Saturday the drums call the marchers to duty on Sunday there is High Mass and an official reception after which the "procession" gets underway, marching through the village and the surrounding fields.

Monday is dedicated to visits to the city fathers and other VIP's in the area and each day has its share of gun salutes! (It is rumored that the uniforms are those that Napoleon's soldiers left behind after their defeat in the fields of Waterloo - this has not been verified.)



The Holy Blood Procession in Brugge is probably the best known and most spectacular procession in Flanders. It takes place each year on Ascension Day, which this year falls on 21 May. The Procession commemorates the arrival in the city of a few drops of Christ's blood, mixed with water washed from his crucified body. It was brought there in 1150 by Diederik of Elzas, Count of Flanders, upon his return from the Crusades. The King of Jerusalem had given this precious relic as token of his admiration for Diederik's valor. A special chapel has been built to house it, called "De Heilige Bloedkapel" (the Holy Blood Chapel) where it is kept safe ever since the 12th century. This Chapel's first floor dates from the 12th century; a second story was built in the 15th - 16th centuries. The upper story is reached by a charming staircase (1523) in flamboyant style. It is this Upper Chapel which today is the actual chapel of the Holy Blood (The relic is exhibited every Friday 7 – 11:30 and 3-5)

The awesome artifact is kept in a small glass vial in an open container of gold that on those Fridays, is placed on an elevated side altar behind which sits a priest flanked by an armed city policeman and a member of the 40-person, centuries-old "Fraternity of the Holy Blood", ultimate guardian of the Holy Blood. Tradition dalm that until the 14th century the blood liquefied every Friday. For at least one week prior to the procession (and often for a longer time in May), the Relic of the Holy Blood is on continuous display in the Upper Chapel.

For centuries the feudal lords and burgers gathered annually around the relic to offer oaths of loyalty. This gradually evolved into a procession with the magistrates and the guilds of the city in full dress for the occasion.

Since 1820 the relic is the central part of a procession that goes out every year on Ascension day. It has been enriched since 1900 by numerous biblical and gospel "tableaux", groups which perform passages of the Old and New Testaments and the life of Jesus. The procession goes through the beautifully decorated streets of the historical city of Bruges and the whole population of town participates in the event school children, business men (and women), clergy, professionals, everybody who wants to, get parts to play.

There are Adam and Eve, Abraham and Isaac, Roman centurions on horseback, Roman lancers and Roman guards, each in their beautiful authentic uniforms; the city trumpeters in medieval garb; groups of children dressed according to different periods in history; there are the medieval guilds, like the brewers, the weavers, the butchers, the bakers and many more, each wearing their traditional costume which identified the trade they belonged to. Diederik on horseback crying the relic, attended by a Bishop and followed by the cnisaders make up the end of the procession.

(see picture on front cover).

Today this very colorful and distinct procession is at the same time a

religious manifestation, a historical evocation and a spectacular event, well worth a special trip!.



The very impressive “Boet Processie” (Penance Procession) in Veurne (West Flanders) takes place on the last Sunday of July at 3:30 PM. It has the same Gothic spirit as the Bruges’ Pageant of the Holy Blood, finding its origin in the 12th Century and owing its existence to the Crusades: Robert II, Count of Flanders made a miraculous escape from a shipwreck on his way back from Jerusalem and vowed he would give the piece of the True Cross he brought back from the Holy Land to the first Flemish church he saw, which happened to be the Church of St Walburge in Veurne, where he left it for safe keeping. This precious relic would of course account for the Holy Cross to enter very deeply into the consciousness of the people of Veurne. It interceded against the bubonic plague of the 14th century and also against an outbreak of war between the Spaniards and the French.

This procession is not planned around the relic of the cross, but became known for the call to do “penance”. The curious medieval survival of the Drama of the Passion is enacted by hooded and bare-footed penitents dressed in long dark brown monk’s garb, carrying each their own heavy cross through town (weighing up to 55 pounds). Some participants have the face covered with a cloth mask so as not to be recognized. The procession starts with about 40 groups, depicting, Biblical characters and scenes from the Old and New Testament like in Bruges, but each group is preceded by an explanatory chorus of angels, followed by “Christ”, carrying a cross that weighs 42 Kilos (92.4 pounds!) and the Penitents. The procession is organized by a local devout society, which is also responsible for the spectacular but very sincere procession making the Stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent.

(By the way, Veurne like Ieper is one of the few Belgian towns, unconquered by the Germans during the first World War, - only 6 miles behind the Yser front)

Saint Evermarus is honored in the Flemish village of Rutten (Limburg) as well as in Marbisoux (Walloon Brabant) and its tradition goes back to the 10th Century. The Saint is honored and commemorated by reenacting the return of pilgrims from St. Jacques (Jacob) de Compostelle (Spain), who had been attacked by the infamous highway robber Hacco. The pilgrims carry the pilgrims staff, and wear a collar decorated with scallop shells (St. Jacob’s shells). Saint Evermarus and the pilgrims are dressed in black, white socks and a black round felt hat. Hacco and his troupe of robbers wear white pants, a red coat and a black hat decorated with long white ostrich feathers. The procession is introduced by a group of angelic virgins, carrying a palm frond.

In villages and rural areas the processions are closely in tune with rural activities or happenings. The Patron Saints are supposed to help the people when in need. In case of inclement weather, sickness in cattle or crop, by flood or drought. The processions are then a penance, by which the Patron Saint is carried through the fields, around the farms and is shown the status of the crop or the cattle that he/she is supposed to “heal”.

There are several “Ommegangs” in Belgium. An “ommegang” is really also a “procession” and means go around”. There are religious Ommegangs and



secular Ommegangs. In this issue we look at the religious Ommegangs.

The Ommegang of St. Gertrude in Nivelles (Wallon Brabant), which takes place on the Sunday after St. Michael's (29 September), is one of the oldest, first mentioned in 1276, and the most respectable of the Ommegangs. It starts at the beautiful Collegiate Church (see BL #63 1995.2) and returns there the participants singing the Te Deum. The shrine of St. Gertrude is carried through the fields surrounding the city on a horse-drawn cart on a round of 14km (about 9 miles) and this tradition remains unchanged for generations. Only twice the procession hails first at the "Pré du Chêne" (Oak meadow) where the participants eat a light lunch. The second stop is on the court yard of the farm "La Grand-Peine".

In the afternoon the procession goes through town and will be preceded by the local group of giants Argayon, Argayonne, Baby Lola (their child) and their horse Godet, followed probably by visiting giants from the surrounding area and by the Nobel St. Gertrude and her ladies in costumes dating from the 17th century.

There are the "Ommegangs" of Lembeek and of Zinnik, the equestrian procession of Hakendover, the processions of Oizy and Mechelen, of Nassonge, Monon and Gistel, of Halle and Tournai, and so many more, but space restrictions forces us to make only one more introduction: **the procession of the**

Golden Carriage of Mons.

This remarkable procession opens the festivities of 'Trinity Sunday' (first Sunday in June) for which the inhabitants of Mons have prepared themselves for a whole year and which ends on the Mat*et Place with the apotheoses: the "Lumeçon", the combat between St. George and the Dragon.

The patron saint of Mons is Sainte Waudru, foundress of a monastery on the highest point of the area arid with that also foundress of the city. She died in 688. From

the 11th century on she is honored as a saint. During the infamous Black (bubonic) Plague from 1349 she is believed to have saved her city from the devastating illness. Her relics are housed in a beautiful golden shrine in Gothic style, guarded and tended by the ladies of the "Noble Chapter of Ste. Waudru's Secular Canonesses."

The procession starts at 10 AM at the Ste. Waudru Church and lasts about 2 hours. Surrounded by a dozen or so choir

boys, the shrine is brought to the Golden Carriage, a fancy horse drawn cart built in 1780 in Louis-XVI style, elaborately sculpted with many little naked angels with golden wings and golden loin-cloths, as is to be expected in beautiful Baroque style.. The carriage is pulled by 6 heavily decorated horses.

One of the highlights of the procession comes at the last steep incline at the foot of Ste. Waudru Church. The six horses are assisted by hordes of spectators to help push the heavy wagon up the hill because ... if the wagon should stop there, it would certainly bring misfortune to the city!

After the Golden Carriage is safely back in the church, the Dragon is released and the secular part of the celebration starts. Preceded by police and firemen, drummers and the marching band of the city playing the "Song of the Doudou", (as the dragon is called) the parade is forming. The 28 foot monster weighing about 400 pounds, is canied by 11 men, and brushes its long tail into the air and hopefully into the assembled masses. Good luck will be bestowed on the one who manages to pull a hair from the dragon's tail (a wonderful "horse tail", made of real horse hair decorates the end of the dragons very active tail!)

St. George is assisted by "one man skirt-horses", men wearing a special 4 to 5 foot elongated wicker basket, covered with a "skirt" identical to the outfit of the man and the contraption has an animal head, of a dog, a horse, but mostly of an unrecognizable creature. These are called "chinchins" and St. George has 11 chinchin helpers; the dragon is assisted by little devils, dressed in black tights with colorful ribbons around legs and wins and sporting a little red cap with two horns...

With lots of noise, laughs, slap stick happenings and the



Acteurs du Combat dit "Lumeçon"

tinging of the Carrillons of the Belfry, St. George will manage to day the dragon alter they have arrived at the Great Market place where the final battle takes place, the "Lumeçon". The origin of the word is not clear. It could come from "Limaçon" = and, an expression that could represent the limber movements of St. George in combat, or the sweeping movements of Doudou's tail!

One more event well worth a trip to Belgium!

Although religion doesn't play the important role it used to, it still is an important factor in everyone's life; although many of the ritual values have changed, or have completely disappeared and are considered old fashioned" or "naive", they still are the backbone of many traditions and especially of the processions.

However, the changed attitudes of the population are very apparent; the old traditional "Monstrance" processions for example, do not happen any more, although this could be attributed as well to the changes in the Catholic ceremonies. The religious festivities will never again be what they were, because the religion itself has changed. Religion has become more of an individual matter, a personal conviction, and no longer plays the role in, nor forms the foundation of the community. But grand scale celebrations and "Ommegangs" still attract the masses; the "religious" message is more and more pushed to the back ground; where participants in the procession may take it very seriously (like without a doubt in the Penance Procession in Veurne), onlookers come to have a good time, come as "tourists" for the colorful spectacle, not for the religious message.

This kaleidoscope of processions throughout Belgium illustrates the osmosis between religion and superstition, history and legends, fear and impotence in face of the unknown.

In the next issue we will talk about the secular parades and festivities, like carnival and the Gilles de Binche and the Brussels' Ommegang.

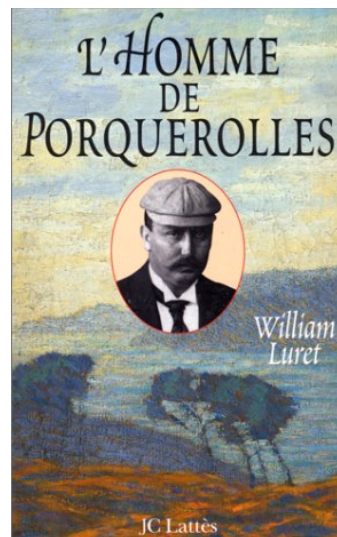
"They represent a few of those many colorful festivals, processions, joyous gatherings and celebrations that make up the very fabric of Belgium, the glittering nation of color and pageantry' (Frommer)

I hope you enjoy our little trips through some of Belgium's traditions.

Sources: A. d'Haenens et al: Folklore in Belgie (1996)

J.P.Ducastelle et al: Geants et Dragons (1996)

A.Frommer: A Masterpiece called Belgium (1989) - Blue Guide Belgium (1988) and various publications from the Belgian Tourist Office in New York.



L'Homme de Porquerolles (The Man from Porquerolles) by Micheline Gaudette

The man from Porquerolles is François Joseph FOURNIER, and Porquerolles is an enchanting French Mediterranean island (across from Toulon). In his book, L'Homme de Porquerolles William Luret tells his - readers the "rags to riches" story that the life of François Joseph FOURNIER had been.

The biography of François Joseph FOURNIER is based on well documented facts, hearsay, and the good imagination of an author fascinated by his subject. François Joseph FOURNIER was born December 6, 1857, on a barge in Clabecq. Belgium. His mother Hortense THAMERS was from Clabecq, but his father Jean Baptiste FOURNIER came from Barry (not far from Toumai) where he had been a farm hand before switching to the backbreaking work of transport of coal /stones, and other goods on barges navigating the canals of Belgium between Charleroi and Antwerp.

François lived his early years in Clabecq with his maternal grandmother Marie Barbe PASTEUR, widow of Louis THAMERS. He had a sister Marie FOURNIER, a brother Albert FOURNIER, and a ½ brother Louis THAMERS. Enrolled at a local school, François was an avid student, hungry for knowledge, but had to quit school at the tender age of nine because he was needed on the barge. He helped his parents until an accident damaged their barge beyond repair. The whole family spent one year in Merksem where Jean Baptiste FOURNIER found work at meager wages then moved to Lier where he became the railroad bridge keeper. In Lier, François was also employed by the railroad, it was the start of his love affairs with railroads. Jean Baptiste FOURNIER died when François was 16. Four years later, François and his mother and siblings moved back to Clabecq. Clabecq wouldn't hold François FOURNIER for long, it is reported that his former teacher convinced him that Paris was the place where he could find a bright future.

In Paris, François held various jobs, mostly manual labor at the open market, at a manufacturing plant.

Unknown to him at the time, the beginning of the promised bright future started when he became an assistant at the laboratory of a museum of natural history and became interested in mineralogy. Encouraged by his supervisors, François (who was forced to quit school at the age of nine) attended night

classes and was befriended by Louis BOURDON the son of Eugene BOURDON, a professor and inventor of a measuring gauge (still in use today). Eugene BOURDON was quick to recognize François' abilities and eagerness to learn and hired him for one of his enterprises and in fact became his mentor. François developed a solid reputation as an engineer. He also learned English.

François FOURNIER was called back to Belgium where his mother Hortense THAMERS was very ill, she died in Oct. 1882 in a poorhouse of Hal. François couldn't understand why his mother was destitute, very faithfully he had send her some money every month in the form of money orders. He found them all in her belongings, apparently she didn't know what they were.

Paris wouldn't hold François for long either, he felt attracted to the New World where his BOURDON friends had financial interests. He left during the winter of 1883, he had the choice between Canada or Panama. he opted for Canada where he was hired as an engineer by the Canadian Pacific Railway and given the task to help build the Albert Canyon Bridge. On November 7, 1885 the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed. Regardless of François FOURNIER's great responsibilities, not a single document has been found in Canada regarding François. Not in the Canadian Pacific Railway records nor any other records, but William LURET after a careful study of the history of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and its progression during the months François was in Canada, combined with stories told by François FOURNIER to his children, has presented a very plausible account of François sojourn in Canada.

After the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, François FOURNIER left for Panama where he found employment with the Panama Canal Co. He survived a bout with yellow fever and left shortly thereafter, having caught another "fever" the gold one.

It was December 7, 1887 when François FOURNIER arrived in San Francisco. What is known about François FOURNIER in the United States was documented by Howard THOMAS who greatly helped William WRET in his search for information regarding François FOURNIER's stay in the US. François almost became an American citizen but his application for citizenship in 1889 was denied since he didn't meet the residency requirement. He worked for a gold and silver mining company in Nevada. However, his great discovery wouldn't be made in the US. It's in Mexico that François would leave his mark.

1894: Sent to Mexico by his American employers and along with other experts, (including a Belgian named MARTIN) François FOURNIER began surveying the Chiapas, Tabasco, Veracruz regions. Though all natural resources were mentioned in his reports, oil was the prime interest of François' American employers. François FOURNIER came in contact with a group of French business people who kindly lend him money and introduced him to powerful Mexican businessmen. He worked for the El Oro Company for awhile, then began gold prospecting and mining for his own. François hired some help and began to work an old long abandoned mine, the San Juan Bautista located one day away from the village of Sultepec. He was not alone, Claudine was with him. Claudine CALVAYRAC was a young woman of French

descent, whose family had settled in New Orleans prior to moving to Mexico during the Civil War. She was the owner of the hotel where François was staying in Mexico City and she became his friend, then his wife (they were married in Mexico City on April 25, 1896).

The San Juan Bautista was just the mean to provide François with some money to start his prospecting activities on the West side of the La Somera region where he had applied for 2 claims. La Somera was exploited for its gold on its East side, while the West side was ignored and regarded as devoid of precious metals. For a while François FOURNIER was back working for the El Oro Co., and prospected the West side of the La Somera when time permitted. His own San Juan Bautista mine was left under the supervision of hired help.

In Tlalpujahua., Michoacan, an Indian gave Claudine a pretty green stone as a token of appreciation for her kindness, the stone contained a high percentage of gold and silver. Shown the Rio El Oro where the stone had been found, François and Claudine were able to determine where it came from. It wasn't far from where they had prospected. Eventually they found a gold vein which they named Dos Estrellas (Two Stars). But more money was needed. To would-be investors, François presented an astonishing plan to find and exploit the mother lode, he had thought of everything even reforestation! The investors were most impressed and provided the money needed to continue the mining work. In March 1901, the mother lode was found on the West side of the La Somera. William LURET describes very well the long years of intensive labor, calculations, miscalculations, savvy business maneuverings, doubts and elation that François FOURNIER experienced during those years. Now, the FOURNIERS were extremely rich. The mining complex that François created was equipped with the latest technology of the time, his 3000 workers were well taken care of, well housed, had access to medical help and most of all were treated with respect, he saw to that.

Another chapter in François FOURNIER's life was about to start. He had now everything money could buy, except children. Claudine was unable to bear children. They went to France seeking medical help but to no avail. The FOURNIERS lived in France, with François traveling back to Mexico on occasion. His mining operation was booming and didn't seem to have been affected by the politics upheavals experienced by Mexico at that time. Back in France François was experiencing another type of upheaval.

He had fallen in love with Mathilde, a young woman friend of Claudine. The FOURNIERS divorced but remained friends. Claudine suffered though. Mathilde, a beautiful "femme fatale", was an expert at seducing older rich men, she made a fatal mistake however when

she kept her lover even though she was married to François, and for that she didn't remain Mrs. Fournier for long. It was François' turn to suffer.

His 3rd marriage would be with Sylvia JOHNSTON- LAVIS, a young woman 30 years his junior and of English ancestry, though it appears a little like an arranged marriage, they lived happily together, she bore him the children he so desperately wanted. In 1912, the Porquerolles island was put up for sale and François FOURNIER bought it as a gift for Sylvia. The FOURNIER family brought new life to the beautiful island, the culture of the grape was expanded, and again just like he did in Mexico, François treated the islanders who worked for him well and with respect. He loved the island and spent more and more time in Porquerolles. He was a good husband and a doting father. It was the best of time for the FOURNIER family.

One sad note in François' otherwise happy life, his only son, from what William LURET reports, might have been prone to depression. And this François couldn't understand.

François FOURNIER died in Porquerolles on 13 January 1935 at the age of 77. But his memory is still very much alive in that beautiful island. In Mexico he is a great legend!

François FOURNIER was a man of great fortitude who overcame great obstacles. He is to be admired for his genius, his vision, his sense of social justice, his great mental power and physical endurance, his sound judgment which he himself called "Just plain common sense". William LURET recognized all these qualities and with enthusiasm brings François FOURNIER and his deeds back to life in his book *L'Homme de Porquerolles*. François FOURNIER would have approved, he appreciated talent, and William LURET has plenty of it, had these two men been contemporaries no doubts they would have been friends.

François FOURNIER spoke rarely of his Belgian origins. He corresponded with his family in Belgium and probably visited them. But never did his wife and children come in contact with their Belgian relatives.

Did he try to shield them from the bleakness of his youth? Only on one occasion, as the Queen of Greece was questioning him in regards to his ancestry and coat-of-arms, did he mention in front of his wife, the poverty of his parents and the fact that he was born on a barge in Belgium.

Source: Luret William: *L'Homme de Porquerolles*, Jean Claude Lattes Edition, 1996. (French)

Some notes: Another famous Belgian was in love with the island of Porquerolles: Georges SIMENON, inspector Maigret's creator. There have been many important people by the name of FOURNIER, including a pope (Benoit XII = Jacques FOURNIER)!

Dictionnaires des Communes de Belgique, Imprimerie E. Guyot. 1966; Clabecq: Brabant Province, 3026 inhabitants
http://visitez.porquerolles.free.fr/histoire_porquerolles.html

Ile de Porquerolles: Beautiful village - Mexican style church surrounded by giant eucalyptus-tourist site-great wine... The Conservatoire Botanique stores 1000 different kind of seeds from endangered native plants and flowers.

During his search for information regarding the family of Claudine CALVAYRAC, (see *L'Homme de Porquerolles* article) Howard THOMAS made an important discovery regarding Belgian nationals residing in New Orleans during the Civil War. These Belgians (and others) were drafted at the service of the Confederate State of Louisiana and organized into a Belgian Infantry Company, of the 3rd European Brigade in charge of local peace keeping.

BELGIAN RESIDENTS IN NEW ORLEANS, LA DURING THE U.S. CIVIC. WAR:

By Howard Thomas



Muster Roll of Belgian Infantry Company (also called 9th Company), 3rd Regiment, European Brigade, Louisiana Militia (Confederate States of America), New Orleans, April 2, 1862.

The following names are copied from the Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who served in Organizations from the State of Louisiana as they appear in the US. Archives Record Group No. 109, Microcopy No. 320. Reels 123 and 124.

These names were cross-checked against New Orleans City Directories for 1861 and 1866. The possibility exists that the spellings of names may have been corrupted during transcription from original muster rolls in the early 1900's thus it was felt that comparing them to the city directories would serve as an additional double-check on the transcribes of the original records. In this list, the name as it appears on the microfilms is listed first and underlined, followed by a slash, and then the city directory name (when found) appears second; e.g. BARTH, L./Barth Leonard. If a city directory listing was found, that personal information is added in parenthesis after the military information.

OFFICERS:

LEROY Max/ LeRoy, Max.; Captain, April 2 1862: Present. Also appears on Report of Louisiana Legion, 1st Division for October 1861. (no occupation listed, res. Claiborne St. corner Toulouse.)

NOBLEM, Jules/Noblorn, Jules; 1st Lieutenant, Apr 2, 1862: "Absent on leave in the service of the Confederate States for 3 months - in the Orleans Battalion"; (accountant, 61 Carondelet).

WALTEMANN, P.J./--; 1st Lieutenant, April 2, 1862: Present.

WAFFELAER, Gerard/--; 2nd Lieutenant, April 2, 1862. Subsequent entry: "Quitted the Co. since 15 May and entered The Confederate Navy."

WILLEMSSEN, H.J./--: 2nd Lieutenant, April 2, 1862: Present.

BARTH L/Bartb. Leonard; Private; April 2, 1862: Present: (ladies shoemaker; resides 257 Burgundy).
BEROT Ver./—2nd Corporal, April 2, 1862: Present
BERTAZZI, P 1--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present
BOLDAN S./Bold-m Steven; Private; April 2, 1862: Present (carpenter, res. 29 Hospital St.)
BOLSIUS GME./Bolsius Guillaume: Sergeant-Major; April 2, 1862: Absent on leave in Virginia on business. Leave given by the Brigadier General. (bookkeeper, res. 4 Front St.)
BOTSAY A./Botsay, Paul?, Private, April 2, 1862, Present. (Botsay Paul Es architect; res. 262 St. Louis St.)
CAHN.--/Calm; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (6 Oahns listed in directory)
CALVAYRAC, Victor /--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present Additional undated entry: "on leave given by Brigadier General
CARLIER, Joseph/Carlier, Joseph; 4th Sergeant; April 2. 1862: Present (glazier; res. 420 Rampart St.)
CARLIER Victor/-- Corporal; April 2, 1802: Present (from other sources, Victor is known to be brother of Joseph Carlier above.)
CHARLES Frois/Charles, Francois; Corporal, April 2, 1862: Present. (no occupation given; res. 229 Main St.)
CHARLEBOIS L./--; Private; April 2, 1862: "Absent on leave working in the Government workshops".
CINYMAR E./Cinys Mars. Eusebe; Private; April 2 1862: Present. (clerk, res. Canale at Carondelet.)
CLEMENT, D/- Private; April 2, 1862: "Absent on leave for one month. Given by Brigadier General,
CORNET, C/Cornet, Philip?; Private; April 2, 1882: Present (Philip = baker, res. 338 Bayou Road)
COUTEUX A./Couteaux, Charles?; Private: April 2, 1862: Present. (Charles of F. Girard Couteux: res. Chartres Corrier Bienville.)
COUTURIE J/Couturie, Amedee?; Private; April 2. 1862: "Absent on certificate of leave by Surgeon Major Boulin who has exempted him from service." (Amedee Consul of Netherlands, 33 Grayer; res. 302 Chartres)
COUTURIER J/Couturier, J.; Private: April 2, 1862: Present (hairstresser, 708 Craps Street.)
DELEPOLI, Phi/--; Private; April 2. 1862: Absent on leave for one month."
DELERISSEN, Pierre/--; Private; undated entry: "has quitted the 20th March. He is enlisted in The Brigade Française without discharge.
DELESIMUM, P/—, Private; April 2. 1862: Present. "Quitted the company since 15 May & entered The Independent Volunteers.
DENVIRRE or DERVIRRE, Jean/—; Private; April 2, 1862: Present.
DEZUTTER, C/De Zutter, Seraphin ?, Private; April 2. 1862: Present. (Seraphim, tailor, res. 76 St. Charles St.) **EMONCE, C./**--; Private; April 2, 1862: Present.
EVERS, J.J/Evers. J.J.; Private, April 2 1862: Present (Paperhangings at 62 Chartres St., res. 145 Conti St.)
FLASSE, F/Flasse, Francois; Private; April 2, 1862: Present. (Blacksmith, rss. 107 St. Ann St.)
FOURNIER J./J. Fournier listed); Private; April 2, 1862: Present. "Honorary Member
FROMYER-- /--; Private; April 2, 1862: Present.
GERARD J/Gerard, J. - 3 listed; Private; April 2, 1802: "Absent on leave certificate of the regimental Surgeon". Second entry in undated Report of Absentees: Absent on leave certificate of Surgeon Major Boulin who has

exempted him from service.
GESSLER R./ 2 Gesslers listed; Private; Undated Report of Absentees: Entered the Militia -- he was a (American) citizen"
GAGNE, J./Gagne, Louis; Private, April 2, 1862: Present (engineer on Carondelet Canal; res. Esplanade near Broad.)
GUILLEMIN L./Guillemin, Louis A.; 3rd sergeant; April 2, 1862: Present. (cigars, 207 Rampart St)
HAAS John/ Hass, John, 3 listed; Private, April 2, 1882: Present.
HARTZ, J/--; Private, April 2 1862: Absent on leave, working in the government workshops."
HAUS or HANS A./—; Private, April 2, 1882: Present.
HENGUINET D./--; Private, April 2. 1862, Present
HERTZ, /Hertz, John; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (tinsmith, res. 446 Charms St)
HOPPE, Michel/ Hoppe, Michel; Private, April 2, 1862: Quitted the Corppany since 15 March and entered the Co. of Confederate Guards, Company D, Confederate Army' (oysters, res. 186 Camp St.)
HOTTMAN Javis/ Hotman, Louis, Private, April 2. 1862: Present. "Honorary Member." (res. 31 Julia St.. no occupation given.)
HUBERTY, J/—; Private, April 2, 1862: Absent without Authority.
JANQUET, J/ J Jauquet, J; 2nd Sergeant, April 2. 1862: Present (tailor, res. 23 Royal St.)
KAUFMANN, / Kaufmann - 9 listed; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.
KNACKAERT Eue./Knockard, Eugene: Private, April 2, 1882: Present Honorary Member." (carpenter, res. 381 Claibome.)
KOOB, G./Koepp, George; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (grocer, 25 Montegat St.)
KREMER M./Many Kraerner/Krell 1ers but no M"; Private, April 2, 1882: Present.
KUNTZ, -/ Kuntz- 16 listed.; Private, April 2, 1862: Present **LA PIERRE., A.N/ Labiere,** Arthur; Private, April 2, 1862: "Absent on leave working in The Government workshops." (clerk, res. 502 Bourbon St.)
LEMONNIER, Y.R/Lernonnier, Y.R.; Private, April 2, 1862: "Absent without authority. (Medical Doctor, ret. 28 Conti St.)
LONEQ ,C/ Loncq, Celestin; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (no occupation listed; ret. 171 Royal St)
MARKS, A/Marks 3 listings under A; Sergeant; April 2, 1862: Present.
MASSON J.B./ Masson, I or GB.; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.
MASSON Nich/Masson, Nich.; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (Cooper, ret. 240 Ursulines St.)
MEULMAN, JB./— Private, April 2, 1862: Present.
MINETTI, J/--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present (from other sources, Minetti is known to be Swiss national.)
MOORS, L/Moors, Louis; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (tailor; res. 79 Gasquet, district 7, Carondelet.)
MULLER, Wm/ Muller, William: Private; April 2, 1882: "Absent on leave certificate of the Regimental Surgeon H. (barkeeper, 221 Mandeville.)
NASITS Jean/--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.
NASITS S.L./--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.
NENING. Js./--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.
NOBLOM A.P/Noblom, August P., 'Honorary Member; April 2, 1882.

PENNELIS F./Pinella, Frank; 4th Corporal: April 2, 1862: Present. (furniture cart driver, 1 28 Clairborne St.)

PERRAULT, Hvp./ 8 Perrault listings but no “hyp”; Private, April 2, 1862: On leave -- employed in the Government workshops.”

PHILIPPI, P./Philippi, 6 listings; Private; April 2, 1862: On leave given by Brigadier General.”

PRUDHOMME, J.B./Prudhomme, JR; Private, April 2, 1862: On leave -- employed in the Government workshops. (no occupation, res. 121 Ferdinand St.)

QUIGNIOT P./--: Private, April 2, 1862: Present.

RAMBOIEN L./--: Private, April 2, 1862. ‘Absent without authority’.

RAMBOUX, J./Ramboux, U.; Private, April 2 1862 “Absent without authority”. (no occupation listed; res 88 Royal)

REINHART, B./Reinhart, B.F.; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (Portrait and Historical painter; res. 170 Canal St.)

REITER, E./Reiter, S listings but no ~Eu: Private, April 2, 1862: Present.

RUSCH, J.S./Rusch, Joseph; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. (Milk, Terpsichore corner Locust St.)

SCHADTS, M./--1st Sergeant; April 2, 1862: Present.

SCHURTZ, --/; Private, April 2, 1862 Present

SENNINGER, J./-- Private, April 2, 1862 Present

SOMERS J./Somers, J.; Private, April 2, 1862 Present (laborer, res. 625 Rampart St.)

STRAUS, Fr./5 Straus listings but no “Fr”; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.

THIETZ, Paul./--; 3rd Corporal. April 2, 1862: “Absent on leave working in the Government workshops.”

VAN DEN BOSSCHE, J.B./--; Private, April 2, 1862: present. Quitted the Company since 15 May and entered the Militia.”

VAN DEN HERREWEGHEN, Jean./--; Private, April 2, 1862: “Quitted the Co. since 15th of last March & entered Coppen’s Zouaves, Confederate Army”

VAN HOCK, Chs./--: Private, April 2, 1862: “Quitted the Co. since 15th of last March & entered Coppen’s Zouaves, Confederate Army.”

VAN HICK, Laurent./--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present. “Quitted the Co. since 15th of May & entered in the Co. of Sharpshooters.”

VAN HOOREBUKE Ed./-- Private, April 2, 1862: Present.

VERMARIEN, Chs./--; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.

WATTIER, J.B./—; Private, April 2, 1862: Present.

WILLEMSSEN, J /--; Private, April 2, 1862.~”Absent without Authority.”

End of Roster - 5 Officers, 86 Enlisted Men

Mary Ann’s Wisconsin Corner

Welcome to one of those ‘what are-the-odds-of this happening?’ stories.

A 27-year-old named Charles du Chateau (BR member # 664) is in Green Bay this month with the company that’s performing Miss Saigon at the Weidner Center. A Colorado-reared musician who plays the cello, the piano and conducts, du Chateau is one of about 100 people touring with the raw and gritty musical.

For most in the company, Green Bay is just another stop on the mad. But for du Chateau it is much more.

I saw we were coming [to Green Bay for four weeks, I was totally thrilled,” he said. This is the place his ancestors came to call home after leaving Belgium in the 1850’s.

In this day and age, it is not so odd that at any given time someone in a touring company would end up in or near a place where his forebears once lived. Millions of families have relocated over the years. A lot of us have moved far away from the old home steads left behind by parents or grandparents. Du Chateau came to Green Bay fully cognizant of his family ties to the area. He traveled here from Colorado as a young boy with his father, Paul, who was born here. A few years ago, when Les Miserables stopped at the Weidner, du Chateau was in the orchestra.

Though he’s been researching his family history ever since, du Chateau wasn’t so familiar with the Green Bay area to know the lay of the land. So try to calculate the odds of this happening.

Before going to a new city, members of the company get to choose where they will stay from a list that simply describes the accommodation. Some stay in hotels. Others select apartments.

Du Chateau picked an apartment from the list, knowing little more than that he would have some space and would be close to the Weidner Center.

“Just by coincidence,” as he put it, du Chateau picked an apartment near Humboldt Road. That apartment turned out to be close to the cemetery where William du Chateau, the man who moved his family here in 1855, is buried.

“I jog out there every morning,” du Chateau said. “Every time I go back, it just hits me. I always wonder what made him come here, to make such a trip. You just think how he could have never known that more than 100 years later, some little punk like me would have been stopping there wondering about him,” he said “I wonder what part of me comes from him.”

Du Chateau’s wondering hasn’t been confined to the graveyard. - “I went to church at Holy Martyrs, which is where some of my other ancestors are buried,” he said. “I went with my girlfriend, and she was laughing because she could tell that through the whole service, I was looking around at everybody” for similar facial characteristics.

With all the genealogical research that he’s done, du Chateau is now able to thumb through the phone book and see familiar names. Though his local cousins spell their name with a capital D and pronounce it differently, he hopes that in the future he’ll be able to swap stories with them.

He’s been working on some musical compositions, drawn from Belgian folk songs. He speaks wistfully of returning here as a guest conductor for a local orchestra that might perform the music. The odds of that happening might seem long. But so too were the odds that a young musician from Colorado would end up staying within jogging distance of the place where his ancestors came to start their new lives.

From Green Bay Press Gazette -4.19.98 -
Submitted by Mary Ann Defnet

News from Peninsula Belgian-American Club

Members of the PBAC will travel to Belgium on October 1 this year for an 18-day stay. Previous plans for a September trip were scrapped because of high air fares. Most of the group will be staying with relatives and friends. Side trips to Prague, London! And Amsterdam, as well as shorter visits to Belgium's historic sites will be enjoyed by the travellers.

Exhibits, talks, and slide presentations on Belgium are being given to grade and high schools and on the St. Norbert College campus by members of the Club as a means of public relations for our organization. While Belgium is small, it is shown to be an important part of our heritage and that of northeastern Wisconsin which is celebrating 150 years of Statehood this year.

Declarations of Intention - Brown County. Wisconsin

This is a continuation of the series of persons from Belgium who declared their intention to become citizens of the United States in Brown County, Wisconsin. The lists were extracted from original Declarations on file site at the Archives of the Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin/Green Bay. Names are given as they appear, with corrections, if known, made in parentheses. Please note that the information may not be exact as many immigrants could not write nor spoil their names, did not remember their exact birth years, nor their exact date of arrival. (to be continued)

Name	Birth Year	Port of Arrival	Declaration
Jean Joseph LONGPAREAU (LEMPEREUR)	1816	Green Bay	Jun 1856
Hubert LOOZE	1833	New York	Oct 1856
Pierre LOOZE	1830	New York	Oct 1856
John Joseph LONRU (?)	1811	Green Bay	June 1856
John Joseph LOUIS	1829	Boston	Apr 1856
J.B LOUIS		New York	March 1856
John B. LOUIS, Jr.	1824	Green Bay	July 1856
Charles LOWEN	1814	New York	May 1856
Ser-e LABAR	1834	New York	May 1856
J. J. LUMAYE	1819	New York	Apr 1856
J. J. LUMAYE	1836	New York	March 1856
Henri LURQUIN		New York	May 1856
, MAXIME	1808	New York	Apr 1856
Jean-Baptiste MACAUX	1826	New York	Dec 1855
Jacques MACAUX	1798	New York	Sept 1856
Marc MINCER (?)	1830	New York	May 1856
J. MAJOIS	1832	New York	Apr 1856
August MALFROID	1835	New York	May 1856
Edmond MALFROID	1829	New York	Apr 1856
Jean-Baptiste MALAISSE	1826	New York	Apr 1856
Edmond MARCHANT	1835	New York	July 1866
Joseph MARCHANT	1835	New York	July 1856
Louis MARCHANT	1815	New York	Dec 1855
François MARICQ	1807	Boston	Apr 1856
Joseph MARKEN (?)	1828	New York	Mar 1856
J.Francois MARTIN	1810	New York	Apr 1856
Pierre MARTIN	1808	Green Bay	July 1856
P J MARTIN	1813	New York	Oct 1855
Jullen MO... (unreadable)	1831	New York	Apr 1856
Denis MASSART	1807	Green Bay	Sept 1856
C. MASSART	1806	New York	Aug 1856
Jean-Noel MASSET	1832	Boston	Apr 1856
Lombard MATTAR (Lambert MOTTARD)	1838	New York	Jan 1856
Peter Joseph MATTY (MATHY)	1797	New York	Apr 1856
John-Baptiste MATTOES	1814	New York	Apr 1856
Leo MATY (MATHY)	1829	New York	Oct 1855
Jean-Joseph MAYNE	1823	New York	May 1856
J B MELON	1813	Green Bay	July 1856
J J MELIN	1801	New York	July 1856
Soleman MELCORE (?)	1813	New York	May 1866
J J MERCIER	1823	New York	May 1856
Eber Joseph MIRROW (Hubert J. MOREAU)	1827	Green Bay	July 1856
Leopold MESON	1836	Green Bay	June 1856
Felicien, MELERA	1835	Green Bay	Aug 1856
Jacobus MEULEMANS	1839	New York	Aug 1855

N J MIGNON	1816	Green Bay	June 1856	3 July 1856
C J MIGNON	1807	Green Bay	June 1856	3 July 1856
Jacques MINSART	1832	New York	Sept 1855	4 Nov 1856
N.MINSART	1805	New York	Sept 1856	6 Oct 1856
Jan Fr. MACAUX	1830	New York	Dec 1855	24 Jan 1856
Emmanuel MORIAU (MOREAUX)	1815	New York	July 1855	5 June 1856
Antoine MOHIMONT	1834	New York	Apr 1856	8 May 1856
Joseph MOHIMONT	1837	New York	Mar 1856	17 Apr 1856
J. F MOHIMONT	1809	New York	Apr 1856	9 May 1856
H. MOTTART	1819	New York	Apr 1856	10 May 1856
J.J MONFILS	1828	Green Bay	July 1856	16 July 1856
Amand MONFORT	1819	New York	Dec 1855	28 Apr 1856
Justin MOORISE (?)	1806	New York	Apr 1856	2 Dec 1856
John Celestin MORRIN	1833	Green Bay	July 1856	17 July 1856
J.B MORNARD	1818	Green Bay	June 1856	3 July 1856
John-Joseph MORSE (Moisse)	1822	New York	Aug 1855	19 Mar 1856
Phillip MORRAUX	1817	Mackinac	June 1856	26 Jun 1856
Baptiste-Emanuel MOTTE	1801	New Orleans	May 1856	6 Sept 1856
Auguste MOUREAU	1834	Boston	Apr 1856	9 May 1856
AJ. MOUREAU	1819	Boston	Apr 1856	27 Apr 1866
Andrea NACKAERTS	1816	Green Bay	July 1866	24 Jul 1856
J.NAMUR	1814	New York	Apr 1856	9 May 1856
Antoine NANIOT	1830	New York	Apr 1856	9 May 1856
Marc NANIOT	1827	New York	Apr 1856	15 May 1856
Prosper NAZE	1834	New York	Apr 1856	10 May 1856
A. NAZE	1809	New York	Apr 1856	9 May 1858
John-Baptiste NAZE	1815	New York	July 1856	28 July 1856
Bartoleme NEGRY	1809	New York	Oct 1856	20 Oct 1856
Jean-Philippe NELIS	1833	New York	Nov 1855	22 Apr 1856
Pierre NELIS	1817	New York	Apr 1856	8 May 1856
Nicolas-Joseph NEUVILLE	1828	New York	Sept 1856	23 Sept 1856
John-Battist NICHELES (?)	1810	New York	Mar 1856	28 Mar 1856
John-Batthist NOYE	1796	New York	Mar 1856	17 Apr 1856
A. NOEL	1833	Green Bay	June 1856	7 July 1856
Amand NOEL	1835	New York	Mar 1856	29 May 1856
J.B NOEL	1798	Green Bay	July 1856	2 Aug 1856
J. Francois NOE	1819	New York	May 1856	29 Aug 1836
Maximilien NOLET	1806	New York	Dec 1855	18 Feb 1856
John-Baptiste NIES (NYS)	1798	New York	Apr 1856	8 May 1856
Julien-Joseph NYS	1829	New York	Apr 1856	8 May 1856

THE TITANIC Revisited: Belgian Emigrants on Board

By Pierre Inghels

We all know the story of The Titanic! the unsinkable. But what do we know about its passengers? The latest movie brought this question to our minds, especially that the stay depicted a young American returning pennyless from England, travelling in third class amidst emigrants from many countries. This sparked our interest: were there Belgians on board? and if so, how many?

A little review first during the night of Sunday 14th to Monday 15th April 1912, the RMS TITANIC, at the time the largest passenger ship in the world, during his first trip from London to New York, struck an Iceberg in the Atlantic Ocean. Two and a half hours later the ship sank. From the more than 2200 passengers on board, only about 700 were saved.

During this terrible night, more than 1500 people lost their lives. Most of the victims were passengers of the second and third class. The first class passengers had first choice in the

lifeboats. At that time, most of the ships going towards America, transported large numbers of emigrants in third class. In reality they were mostly penniless European fathers and tradesmen, wanting to try to find a better life in the States. Many a Belgian also emigrated to the States, some to join family members already there, or to try their chances in Detroit, Michigan or in Canada.

According to the passenger lists from the British Shipping Company the WHITE STAR LINE, owner of the TITANIC, about 22 Belgian emigrants were on board. Of those, only three men and a woman survived the disaster: Theodore DE MULDER, from Aspelare; Jean SCHEERLINCK from Denderhoutem; Betihe DE VILLERS from Brussels, and Jules SAP, from Zwevezele. Jules SAP, listed as SOP on the passenger list, was about 22 years old at the time, he had paid 312 Belgian frs. for his ticket. Before leaving, he had met another Belgian, Jules VANDERPLANKE (31) who was foreman for the CONTINENTAL SUGAR

COMPANY in Fremont Ohio and had come back just before Christmas from Ohio to marry his sweetheart Emilie DE HILLE (31). Together with his new wife, his 18 years old sister Augusta, and his 16 years old brother Leon, they boarded in second class on the Titanic in Southampton, while Jules Sap boarded in third class. The whole family VANDERPLANCHE was lost in the disaster, while Jules Sap was one of the very few from third class to be saved...

Other Belgian passengers on board were: in 3rd class: Victor VERCUYSE (47) from Zwevezele; in 2nd class: Achiel WAELENS (22) from Ruddervoorde who both drowned. (We were unable to find the names of the other Belgian passengers. If anyone has that information, please let us know!) Jules SAP later told his story:

This Sunday night, Jules had gone dancing in one of the many salons on the ship. Around 10 p.m., feeling tired he decided to go to bed, his room was in the hold on the second floor next to the boilers in front of the ship. At 11:40 p.m. one of the lookouts spotting an iceberg just in front of the ship, rang the crow's nest bell to warn of the danger to the bridge. The first officer in charge responded right away, turned the ship to port and put it in reverse, but it was too late, the Titanic grazed the iceberg on starboard, creating large gaps in the hull. Water rushed inside filling the watertight compartments, spilling over the top of the bulkheads into succeeding compartments. The shock was heavy and Jules Sap woke up. He went up to the deck to see what was happening, but being covered only by his night clothes, and realizing that was cold, he went back to the hold to get some warmer clothes. On the way down, he stopped at the Vanderplanke cabin. But they told him: 'This ship can not sink, it is made of iron and steel).

When Jules got down he was in about 20 inches of water. Without looking any more for clothes, he ran back to the Vanderplanke cabin to alert them. They right away took their lifebuoy and a suitcase and ran up stairs to the deck. Jules realizing that he didn't have anything, nor clothes nor lifebuoy, ran up to the deck and on the way up grabbed himself a lifebuoy.

Jules Sap then goes on to tell his story:

"on the deck, we were shaking from the cold, many people were crying... when they sent up light rockets, we could see around us, and were really afraid. Some people were looking over the railing to see if the ship was really going down, but they could not see anything, the ship was so big and the deck so high up!

We were standing on the stern and this part of the ship slowly rose up from the water, while the stem went down into the water. The stem went down, because that's where the gap was," said Jules.

By then the captain of the Titanic Edward J. Smith had given orders to evacuate the ship. They started to get the lifeboats for first class down, and it then appeared that there were not enough for everybody and none left for second and third class. A real panic went through the people and, said Jules: when I realized that I could not have a place in one of those lifeboats, just jumped overboard. How deep down I went in the water, I don't know. The only thing I know is, that I went to the doors of hell".

He remembered that he had seen people throwing wooden boards, suitcases and/or baskets in the water, anything that could float. Jules found one of these boards that helped him to keep afloat. "I rested awhile then swam for awhile, then rested again, then swam again..., until I came to a lifeboat, but they didn't let me in. Probably because they were already overloaded... and then, they were reserved for women and children. I was praying my last act of contrition, when the board on which I was holding for dear life, hit another lifeboat. I clamped my hands on the side, and tried to raise myself, but I was too weak. Nobody said a word, but one of the women had pity and helped me to get on board. I was freezing cold and I just kept crawling under the benches until I reached the rear. There I hid under the long skirts of a woman) At a certain time one of the sailors realizing that there was a man on board wanted to throw him overboard, but Jules got out his knife, and they left him in peace.

At 2:20 am. the stern of the Titanic came completely out of the water, and ten minutes later the ship went vertically down into the depths of the ocean.

"How the Titanic went down? I didn't see" said Jules Sap later. A few hours after the sinking, the first survivors were picked up by the Steamer CARPATHIA. Jules Sap together with the three other Belgians saved from the disaster, landed in New York. There he was immediately arrested and thrown in jail, because he had taken the place of women and children in the lifeboat. A certain Mr. SONNEVILLE, a Belgian from Wevelgem who had a business in New York, later paid his ransom and got him freed.

Jules stayed two years in the United States. He went back to Belgium in 1914, married Adele LEENKNEGT from Hooghelede and had two children: Suzanne and Cyriel. On the first of March 1924, the family left for America. Jules went to work for a tobacco plantation in Canada, where a third son, Georges was born. After a crop failure, the family went definitely back to Hooghelede, Belg. on 20 January 1930. Jules Sap died in 1966. He was 76....

Sources: Walter Lord, "A Night to Remember; Alyssa Hickman, "The Unsinkable Titanic" - Ancestry Jan/Feb '98; The Titanic Historical Society - The Gazette van Detroit, Feb.19 '98.

NORTHWEST NEWS

by Leen Inghels

As announced in the last issue of Laces, the yearly picnic will take place on Saturday 25 July.

Our hosts Don and Pearl Vanden Heede are getting ready for the invasion of Belgians again at their beautiful ranch in Boring. They decided to hold the picnic on Saturday this year, because so many of you indicated that this would be a better day for you than Sunday. So, please, mark your calendars, there is no doubt the picnic will be Saturday July 25! Thanks to

Louis and Marleen Looyens for their help with the planning ! The Honorary Belgian Consul from Portland, Mr. John Herman, has firmly promised to participate this year. In the past years, he had business conflicts, but he has been able to include this gathering of Belgians from the Northwest in his schedule. We will warmly welcome him in our midst, in case you haven't met him yet, this will be a good occasion.

Invitation letters will go out soon again, because Pearl would like to receive the RSVP's by July first.

Our hosts will provide barbecued ham and beef sandwiches, and all participants are asked to bring a dish of their choice (no more alphabetical restrictions.) Dennis Payne will again provide for the proverbial Belgian thirst, and we are looking into the feasibility of making real Belgian fries served with real Belgian Mustard Pickles.

As every year there is no charge for the picnic, but we will have our traditional money box for 'donations for the picnic', so that the Vanden Heedes's do not have to bear the total cost of the event.

There will be Tee-shirts and Windsocks for sale as well. Those of you that already own a Belgian Tee-shirt, let's wear them and make a group picture for Laces!

We want to invite all members of the Belgian Researchers, any one who is traveling in the Northwest at that time, come and join us! One of our new contacts said "plus on est de fou plus on rit" (the more crazy there are, the more we laugh, or the more fun we'll have). We would love to meet more members from the other geographic areas of the States.

Looking forward to another successful Belgian Day!

Last minute NW announcement:

Pearl wants you all to know that as of April 19th the greenhouses are open and she has her flower planters and baskets ready ... and all Belgians will receive a discount. Thank you Pearl, that's a very nice gesture. I hope all you Portlanders are going to make a dash to Boring and get your patios beautified with Pearl's beautiful arrangements. Keep a nice one for us, Pearl, we want one too!

BELGIAN EMBASSY NEWS

from Belgium Today April-May 1998

SHAPING OPINION ON EUROPEAN SECURITY

How much does Europe rely on the US for its defense? What contributions are Europeans making and what risks are they taking toward their own security? The Western European Union, the only European organization empowered to carry out military operations, has developed a special mechanism to explain its security and defense efforts to North Americans: the Transatlantic Forum (TAF). Belgium currently holds the TAF presidency and has organized a series of activities designed to stimulate thinking about these questions.

Spearheading efforts to foster dialogue on European security in the US, the Belgian Embassy has organized a panel tour with stops in Los Angeles on Mardi 25, Chicago on May 26 and Atlanta on June 10. Ambassador André Adam and Deputy Chief of Mission Johan Verbeke will participate along with Brussels-based WEU officials and American

experts on European security. The panels hope to attract an audience of American decision makers, media representatives, acaderr~ and political leaders.

Discussions will continue in a series of working luncheons with embassy representatives of the 18 WEU countries and will culminate in the Washington Conference, scheduled to take place on June 30 at the Willard Hotel. Belgian Minister of Defense Jean Pol Poncelet will chair this conference dealing with the European Defense Identity, transatlantic solidarity outside of NATO and the effects of the growing technology gap between US and Europe.

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen will be the keynote speaker.

NOISE MEASUREMENT

LMS International, a Leuven-based high tech company with booming sales of \$100 million, has received a \$6.8 million order from General Motors to supply the integrated test and analysis systems for the new Noise and Vibration Center (NVC) facility at General Motors Proving Ground in Milford, Michigan.

Noise and vibration engineering is a critical path in the vehicle development process and the new center and systems will contribute to getting the noise and vibration characteristics of all GM vehicles 'right first-time.' "This order signifies the confidence that General Motors has in LMS as a strategic partner." Says General Manager of LMS North America in its Detroit office.

LMS has developed into a leader in noise measurement in the automobile industry. Besides GM, Ford and Chrysler we among its major US Customers. Moreover its integrated systems and technologies are used in engineering the most famous sound in all internal combustion, that of a Harley Davidson.

BELGIUM CONQUERS THE ANTARCTIC - again

One hundred years after the explorer Adrien de Gerlache led the first expedition to winter on the frozen continent, two Belgians have achieved another remarkable feat: Alain Hubert and Dixie Dansercoer were the first men to walk across Antarctica from the North to the South, with only a pair of skis and a parafoil. It was a 3,900 Km journey, which began on November 4 and ended on February 9: 99 days of intense struggling with violent gales, ice storms, and temperatures consistently below -100c.

Alain Hubert relates that when he saw the Belgian flag on the South Pole he was moved, "although I am not usually very sensitive to those things" But the journey was not over. At our arrival at Scott Amundsen base, on the South Pole, the Americans had baptized us the Belgian skiers. When we arrived at McMurdo base (the end of our journey) they called us the crazy Belgian skiers) It was a victory, not only in the history

of Antarctica expeditions, but also a personal victory for the two men who were confronted with environmental, technical and even psychological ordeals. But they made it and have entered the "hail of fame" of contemporary Belgian heroes, next to cyclist Eddy Merckx, astronaut Dirk Frimout and cub reporter Tintin.

BACKGROUND READING FOR YOUR NEXT TRIP

Belgian Bliss" by James S. Wamsley, with photographs by Macduff Everton appeared in National Geographic Traveler, Mardi/April 1998. This article on Belgium's best county inns' features the Chateau d'Hassonville, the Auberge du Moulin Hideux, Hostellerie Shamrock and the Scholteshof, and includes a list of other hotels chosen for overall quality.

The Scholteshof, located in the Province of Limburg, was the focus of a separate piece, "Beneluxury" which was published in the Mardi/April edition of Departures. The big draw: Scholteshof's restaurant, whose chef owner Roger Souvereyns has earned two Michelin stars and is considered to be one of Belgium's best chefs.

The cover of the March/April issue of Endless Vacation announces an article on enchanting excursions through Bruges, Belgium. The story, "Landlocked in Time," with photography and text by Bob Krist, conjures up the cobblestoned streets, step gabled houses, placid canals and artistic treasures of the city of Brugge, including St. John's Hospital and the Belfry.

"The best of the Belgian capital, revealed by the people who know" proclaims the lead to "An Insider's guide to Brussels," which appeared in February's Travel & Leisure. The article is full of recommendations about where to stay, where to eat, where to shop and what to see.

FOR THE ARMCHAIR TRAVELER

We reprint here excerpts from the blurb of a newly released, luscious coffee-table book which has come our way:

Piet Swimberghe, Photographs by Jan Verlinde, Brussels The Art of Living Tielt, Belgium: Lannoo Publishers, 208 pages, \$50

With over 230 full-color photographs and an informative text, Piet Swimberghe pays tribute to the glory and fascination he feels for the beauty of this ancient city, a place steeped in individualism.

Swimberghe takes us on a guided tour of the city's wonders, including the Ganterie Italienne, a shop established in 1890, the art-deco restaurant Taveme du Passage, and the world famous chocolate shop. Neuhaus, established in 1857- He shows us the flamboyant ad nouveau house, Maison Saint-Cyr; the lakes of Ixelles near the Porte de Namur, unknown to all but a few; and a multitude of sculptures and monuments including eighteenth-century treasures from ducal gardens.

Brussels: The Art of Living also takes an inside look at the private houses of the city's innovative architects, artisans, others who make Brussels their home and in turn add to the splendor that is Brussels.

POPPIES REMEMBER

On April 4, a new museum on World War I opens in the town of Ieper (Ypres), site of one of the principal Belgian battlefields of "The Great War" Named "In Flanders Fields".

after the famous war poem by Canadian soldier-poet John McCrae, the museum will be housed in Drapers' Hall.

State-of-the-art technology, including multilingual multimedia installations and interactive CD-ROMs, will tell the war story, focusing not only on military strategies and political history but also on the personal experiences of ordinary people.

THE BRUEGEL CLAN

The two sons of Pieter Bruegel are the focus of a dual exhibition-a first!-that will take place at the Royal Museum of Fine Arts In Antwerp from May 3 through July 26. Pieter Breughel the Younger ("the Infernal"), lived from 1564 to 1637/8, and Jan Brueghel the Elder (the Velvet"), was born in 1568 and died in 1625.

The hundred work exhibition, culled from European and American collections, will include some of Pieter the Younger's copies of his father's work as well as his own diverse and original paintings and a selection of Jan the Elder's floral still lifes and allegoric cabinet-sized scenes.

RESISTANCE EXHIBIT

The Royal Museum of the Army and of Military History in Brussels is in the process of installing a major permanent exhibit on World War II, which will include displays on the WW's origins and its aftermath. Although this memorial exhibit will not open until early 1999, the section on the Resistance comprising four sub-segments on the occupation, daily life, resistance and repression, will open to the public on May 8, fifty three years to the date of the 1945 Nazi capitulation.

A BELGIAN-AMERICAN MEMOIR

The Factory of Facts- the autobiography of Luc Sante a 43-year-old Belgian-American who emigrated from Verviers. Belgium to Summit, New Jersey in 1958 has received critical attention in the press.

Labeling Sante "a New York literary sensation," the Bulletin characterizes the new book as "an attempt to harvest impressions, to confront memory and interpretation, to demonstrate what makes a human being complex and unique."

In his review who appeared in the N.Y. Times on March 8, WS. DiPiero writes : Luc Sante's sly elegant autobiography will satisfy a craving that other memoirs do not. 'The Factory of Facts' is a forensics of remembrance, an investigation of selfhood as it is articulated in and by history. Sante seems not terribly

interested in himself but passionately curious about the infinite particulars that shaped him.

Michael Thompson-Noel, writing enthusiastically about the book in the March 14-15 edition of the Financial Times, adds Part at the charm of The Factory of Facts derives from his exploration of his family's past. The rest comes from his subtle, often ironic but never petty, unfair or condescending disquisition on Belgium and its eccentricities...

What makes Belgium a country, apart from tangled history? In Sante's view the answers include: Baked goods. Churches. Weather. The habit of discretion. Fried potatoes. Shrubbery. The color gray... Compactness, miniaturization. Cleanliness. Brickwork. Class consciousness. Reserve, aloofness... Silent children, well-bred dogs, unassertive house plants. The tear of Cod, the gad of tear. The ability to sit for long hours. White linen tablecloths. Symmetry. Monuments. Trees like fists ... -

Luc Sante, The Factory of Facts, New York Pantheon Books, 307 pages, \$24

In Search of Constant FORTEMPS

(Third Installment)

From - Wavrensia Vol. XXXVIII 1989 #3, by Jan Jacques GAZIAUX

edited and translated by Regine BRINDLE

From Jauchelette, Belgium to Ashkum,

Constant FORTEMPS was 18 when he left for the New World, with the advice of his kin, especially that of his grandparents, who surely will have made him promise to write, and not to leave them without news from him.

Constant does not forget. In a letter, dated November 12, 1875, he writes that he was staying with Adolphe PETIT, Pierre's son, his grand-father's old friend. That's enough to reassure Honore FORTEMPS, who now has an address where to write to his grand-son.

Pierre and Honore are practically of the same generation. They spent their youth in Glimes and both married girls from Jauchelette. The FORTEMPS-RECOM family and the PETIT-COURTOIS family go back a long way. When the FORTEMPS lived in the RECOM house, on Chemin du Cortil A l'Orge, they were neighbors of Mrs Jhe COURTOIS (aunt and cousin, wife of Michel PEREAU, referred to in the correspondence)

All that remains from the correspondence between Constant FORTEMPS and his family in Belgium, is 3 letters, written by Honore in March and April 1876. Before we turn to them, let's put their content in the general context of the time.

We learn that Honore, delighted to know his grand-son to be with the PETIT, wrote to him there on December 12, 1875, to let him know of the happy outcome of the lottery.

Yet, the days, and months of an unending winter go by without news from America (since November). Worry replaces wondering. So, on March 19, Honore sends 2 letters to the PETIT's address. In the first one, he pleads with Adolphe PETIT to give news of Constant, to protect him, and to give him the other letter, in which Honore tells his grand-son of his sorrow to not have heard from him. He reiterates

the content of his previous letter with some additional informations.

A month later, on April 18, Honore receives a letter, dated March 28, from Constant, telling him that he has settled in with Adolphe PETIT's family. He is working for Adolphe, whose father had passed away. In his answer, dated April 23, Honore repeats his previous letters and reacts to the news. He seems reassured about his grand-son's well being, yet still devastated by the memory of his departure, he ends his letter with particularly moving words.

The peculiarity of these letters is that they were written in Belgium, for the immigrant in Illinois. Their yellowing leaves were folded in 4, and 2 were torn on the side.

Jauchelette, March 19, 1876.

Mr adolphe Petit it's with the most profound respect that I take the liberty to address these few words to you to inquire about the well-being of my grand-son, Constant fortems I wrote him on December 12, 1875, at your address, as he had indicated to me in his letter that he was writing from your house, and having received no answer from him I am beginning to worry about his long silence Could I oblige you Mr. petit to drop me a few lines to let me know where he is, what he is doing, if he's in good health, anything that would interest a devoted father, filled with tenderness towards his son as I could not possibly describe the immense sorrow that fill my heart for this poor child to whom I was always so attached and that I have not yet forgotten him, no more than the day of his departure, I would be most grateful for any information you could provide, God willing they will be good, but do not try to spare me from the whole truth, and tell me what his future looks like, and be kind enough to give him the other letter here enclosed, and forward it to him as soon as possible, if he is no longer with you. Make sure to give him good advice, as at his age, one does not have all the necessary wisdom a man needs to have, now I will speak of your family. Constant tells me that your father is still well, which pleased me greatly, be good enough to give him my best regards as well as to your brother and all your family I will finish by commending my grand-son into your care, and I hope you can serve as a father figure in his life, The Pereau family and Jean Baptiste Wilmet send their best also. Jean Baptiste Wilmet is busy building traps to catch himself some weasels in america.

whole heartedly and in all friendship, I am your devoted servant

Honore J Fortems

Jauchelette March 19, 1876.

My dear son it is with the greatest anxiety that i remain without news from you, since December 12, when I wrote you, I have not received an answer, which really afflicts me, I had written you to let you know of your good fortune in the lottery draw. I left for Jauche at 6 am that day to go and draw out your number, but the weather was awful, snow was falling heavily and the northern wind was blowing with such unbearable violence that I had to go home, Mr Secretary drew for you, with a wonderful luck, he drew number 92 which put you well out of harm's way, I had also asked you to let me

know if you were still staying with Mr. Adolphe Petit, and what you were earning, as I worry you might need something, I wrote a letter to Adolphe Petit and beg him to give you this one as soon as possible in case you might no longer be with him, and beg him to protect you as best he can, as I know his father's kindness, I have no doubt of the son's finally I remind you to show them great respect and gratitude, dear son do not forget to tell us how you are spending winter here it has been very hard and painful. since November we have had snow, with unusual frost and excessive cold. As I am writing you the ground is still covered with snow, and last Sunday, on March 12, St Gregory's day, we thought it was the end of the world as we lived through a hurricane that lasted 6 hours. it started around 6 pm and went on until midnight, a wind like no one had ever seen, thousands of trees pulled from their roots, hundreds of houses and barns turned upside down. It was a very sad sight. If the wind blows like that on the sea, what disaster must result, Now for news from the village, Paul Joseph Schayes died, our priest left to go back to Jauche to be with his family because of sickness, so we have no priest, I also received a letter from Paliseul telling me of my brother Auguste's death, but no detail on his sickness, services were Saturday March 18, I had asked in my letter to tell me how much meat costs in America and how much it cost to rent land and anything and everything that have to do with agriculture, your godmother wrote 8 days ago that she had just written you, but I don't really trust her, as I know how lazy she is about writing. We have had the measles here for a month. It was so bad they had to close the schools, Lina was also sick but is getting better. The other little one is just beginning to get sick, but there has been no death up till now. Well dear and beloved son Constant I will close with hugs from all our hearts, and with a special holy blessing from your Aunt Melanie and Uncle Alexandre, as well as all our neighbors and friends,

yours completely, yours fathers and mothers,

Honore J Fortemps and Victoire Recom

Jauchelette, April 23, 1876

My very dear son, in answer to your esteemed letter of March 28, which we received on April 18, we have been very surprised not to have heard from you since your letter of November 12, which we received, I wrote you twice. the first one on January 12 to tell you with great joy that you had drawn a good number in the lottery, #92, pulled by the secretary, I had gotten on the way at 6am, to draw your number, but the weather was awful, snow was falling in such large quantity that I would have surely died, and I congratulated you that you had settled with Mr Adolphe Petit, as you could not ask for more honest a family, and we hope you can stay there, the second letter, I wrote on Mar 19, basically repeating the same things, and telling you of my brother Auguste's death at Paliseul, and that of Schayes, and since then, that of Fifi Botton, and we have a new priest, please be respectful towards Mr Adolphe Petit, and tell him how deeply I feel for the loss of his father, as he was one of my old time friends. Your godmother came over on Sunday April 2 for Lucien's first communion. On the 3rd, she fell sick and stayed for 10 days without ever getting up, but she went home healthy after 12 days. As for us, dear son, we are

more or less in good health, I have had a cold all winter but I work at dewate, coughing still considerably. But one must brave infirmities, as one must live, dear son, you tell us that you are working for Mr Adolphe Petit, earning an average \$80/year, that's not bad at all, and I recommend you save as much of it as you can and be careful how you spend it, as if you ever decide to come back to Belgium you will need it, and if you stay in America, it will come in handy too. In your letter of November 12, you say that you are well fed, that pleases us very much, because when you are young and you eat well, work comes easy. finally dear son, I advise you here as well as in my previous letters, to be wise and to be careful with your money, and I ask you to give my best to Mr Petit and to all those you meet whom we know, to the Robin cousins and to the old cousin and we send you kisses and love,

your very devoted parents for life, adieu dear Constant, dear son, adieu, you for whom I still cry every day, adieu, my most precious thing in the world. Your devoted old father
H J Fortemps

The content of Honore Fortemps' letters

To Adolphe PETIT

From Honore's first lines to A. Petit, we notice the mark of respect, even though a bit clumsy in its repetition, probable indication of the old peasant's embarrassment. He demonstrates the politeness of a modest solicitor before an important person. Moreover, Honore does not this 35 y old man very well; after all he had only been an adolescent when the family left for America. In fact he does not even allow himself to address with the more familiar "dear". He knows that his friend's son has made his own way, and he feels that Constant's immediate fate lies in his hands. It is to him however that the worried old man looks to for help for his grand-son.

Even though he "takes the liberty to address him a few words", he really does not want to bother him: he only asks, in a blend of politeness and elegance, to "be so kind as to drop him a few lines", hoping good news would bring relief to his anxiety concerning his grand-son. Assuredly these lines will have to be dense as they should speak "of all that would interest a father", especially since he adds: "do not keep any truths from me". He also asks him to forward the other letter to Constant "as soon as possible". So this is more than anything else a petition, as he asks the man to send him information about Constant, and his future, then asks him to advise the young man.

At the same time, Honore simply speaks from his heart of "devoted father full of tenderness", unable to "describe the immense pain that weighs down on him", so that with out any calculation on Honore's part, his request takes on an emotional weight that should touch A. PETIT and should make him feel for "this poor child" so far away from his kin.

After presenting his best wishes to his old friend, whose good health he rejoices in, and to the family, Honore also gives the regards of the PEREAU family, the PETIT's cousins, and his nephew J-B WILMET -son of Rosalie RECOM, Victoire's elder sister, who married Antoine WILMET, in Jauchelette, in 1812. The couple settled in Glimes where J-B was born in 1829. JB married there when he was 30, and had 5 children;

he seems to have died there too, in 1885. Also note that Rosalie WILMET, JB's sister, lived in the PETIT's house after her marriage in 1857.- Speaking of which, he adds another piece of information that should prove interesting to old emigrants.

Honore ends his letter with more politeness, almost like he is kneeling before his reader.

He maintains the same language and respect towards the PETITs in his letters to Constant. Misterr Adolphe PETIT is a trustworthy man to be relied upon. He also mentions to Constant that he has pleaded with Mr. A PETIT to protect him to the best of his ability, which brings Honore to advise Constant to be grateful and respectful. He also encourages him to stay with them.

To sum it up, Honore considers the PETIT family to be a safe haven in the midst of uncertainty, a hope he can cling to. He hopes Constant will establish a base there, on which to build a better future. The old friend from yesterday has died, but his son picked up the task, when he hired Constant at a rather decent wage. Honore is now reassured!

It is interesting to note that after introducing Constant as his "grandson", Honore thereafter refers to him only as his "son", which shows their mutual attachment for each other. Constant is a sensitive young man, capable of attachment for those who care for him, and not easily dismissed. It is obvious he is on the old man's mind all the time.

Honore is obsessed by this image, especially since he has not heard from him in months. Constant is at an age when he needs a kindly hand to guide him. Away from his grandfather's advice, could he fallen prey to someone because of his lack of maturity. That's why he worries so. Luckily, Mr PETIT, who is doing well, will be a good example to follow. Surely, Honore only wishes his grand-son well. Yet, this almost 20-year old young man might not appreciate all that his grandfather has to say.

Constant.

In neither of the two letters does Honore give Constant important news. The only information that really matters to the young immigrant, is the result of the military lottery. Yet Honore has to bring up that infamous #92, at the beginning of each letter, in big print. Once that worry out of the way, Honore concerns himself with Constant's future, and so he tries to give him advice.

As can be expected, the negative dominates in the letter of March 19, at least at the beginning, since he is without news from Constant. Moreover, Honore's letter was written the day after his brother's funeral, which he could not attend, and only one week after the terrible hurricane which left everything in shambles. Those events however take second place in the letters. The tone is set with the first sentence, even though other words express more his pain than reproach or criticism. It must also be noted that Honore "vouvoie" his grand-son. (more formal way of addressing your elders). Although it is the normal everyday polite form in walloon, but it seems more another way for Honore to show Constant that he cares about him.

Some not too interesting comments about the village lead right to 2 questions: the cost of things in America and the veracity of his godmother's letter, or not.

The letter is written by an old peasant wise with years in which he talks without bitterness about some facts of life in the village. It also shows that this letter is not like a bottle thrown in the ocean. It more than likely will reach him. With the blessing of his grandparents.

The first lines of the letter of March 23, addressed to his "dearly beloved son", note a change in the tone. He has received a reassuring letter from Constant, and that "chased his shadows away". Now that he has his answers, Honore will not ask again.

Otherwise, nothing new, other than the sad death of his old friend PETIT, and minor health problems, especially Constant's godmother, but nothing to keep him from working. One must earn a living. And since Constant is on the threshold of a new career, he can listen to his wise grandfather's advice!

All that is now left to the old man is to give free flow to the tears of his broken heart. With a particularly moving quadruple adieu and engulfed in a wave of nostalgic sadness, he "tutoies" Constant: " Adieu to you, for whom I cry everyday".

* it may be interesting to note that these last words are written along the bottom edge of the paper as though they are taken in with the emotion and might flow over the edge*

Could it be that Honore, at first petty about the number of letters written by Constant's godmother, is overtaken by the reality that this might very well be his last letter to his dear "son", that the page has been turned permanently, even if he makes mention of a possible return...

Subject Matter

Winter had not yet relinquished its hold on the village. It had been particularly long and cold. The hurricane that passed through Jauchette is recorded as one of the worst tempests to have ravaged Belgium. In "Rapport sur la vitesse du vent en Belgique considerée au point de vue du calcul des constructions" (report on the windspeed calculation used by contractors)- p43-45 - it is noted that it was the most violent tempest ever recorded in Brussels, and in Anvers, the Escaut River was never in such fury as that day. In " Une belle figure wallonne, Edmond ETIENNE", "Sa Vie et son Oeuvre", and in "Le Folklore Brabançon", Paul MOUREAU says that the giant linden-tree of the Chapelle a l'Arbre, on Rue de Pietrain, in Jodoigne, was knocked down by the cyclone. That tree had been like an "oracle" according to the superstitions. It had a very thick foliage. Some people, lovers, and soldiers, went there to throw a rock up into the canopy; if it did not fall back down, their wish would come true. A lady from Jauchette, Maria LEONARD, born in 1915, remembers her grandmother, born in 1859, there, telling her that the storm had downed so many trees, that there had been a great sale on wood.

The deaths of acquaintances, friends and family: from November 25, 1875 to April 5, 1876, 8 people have died in Jauchette: 2 farmers, 2 friends, J Jh BUIS, day laborer, 74, and Jeanne Marie MELOTTE, 63, and 4 small children (1d; 7d; 9m; 18 m old). The measles could be deadly in those days. Constant is lucky to be well fed: Honore notices it, and it makes him happy. It is not by accident that the old man asks about the food and meat prices in America, at a

time when most villagers, at least those who can afford it, bought unsalted beef, only for Sunday dinner. For a well-fed young man, work is easy... But it also matters that he be paid accordingly. We do not know what Honore did for DEWAET, but in 1880, the average wage of the day laborer was F1.84. The price of bread was 50 centimes/Kg, for first quality; 47c for demi-blanc; and 44c for regular.

In March 1876, the price of 1Kg of butter was F3.46.

Constant earns \$80/year. Earning your keep to insure one's survival surely is a priority! What he does not need, Honore tells Constant to save as much of as he can. We can guess what he would have used it for, a plot of his own land. How much does renting land cost?

Whatever, he must remind Constant not to throw his money away. He will need someday.

(to be continued)

THEY MADE AMERICA THESE WALLOON ANCESTORS

Under this heading the author Jo Gerard in collaboration with his wife Isabella tells the story of the emigrants of Walloon Belgians to the United States. In the book L'Epopée des Wallonnes et des Wallons they document the accomplishments of French-speaking Belgians in their own country as well as in different parts of the world. In chapter six they mention the beginnings of New York and the settlements in Indiana and Ohio, Wisconsin and Illinois, Kansas, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. -

Translation by Pierre Inghels

Have you read these three books? The first, **Arlonnais, fondateurs de Belgium Wisconsin**, (Arlon people, founders of Belgium, Wisconsin), the second, **De Semois en Indiana** (From the Semois to Indiana), the third, **Lorraine Belge en Amerique** (Belgian Lorraine in America)?

The author of these interesting works, is Jean Ducat.

His name is worth its weight in gold. He tells the stories and the adventures of the Walloon emigrations to the United States during the last centuries.

Jean Ducat mentions many family names of Walloon emigrants that are still to be found in the telephone directories at Brussels, Belgium! So the name DEOM for instance, to continue with the name EVRARD, the names GOFFINET, LANOTTE and MEUNIER; the REMY's and the RICHARD's as well as the TASSIN's and so many more, settled in the United States and these names are still in our telephone directories. So we the THIRY's, who in great number settled in Indiana in the XIXth century, as attested by a list published by the author.

The adventure of the Walloons started in 1624. That year, thirty Walloon families created the village of Manhattan and shortly thereafter founded New York, as is attested by the first map of the United States with the mention "Novii Belgii" (New Belgium), as name of what is now New-York. In 1924, Jules Destree who lived rue des Minimes in Brussels, Belgium, had a monument erected to the 30 Walloon families, founders of New York, on Battery Square in this famous city. The Walloons kept good relations with the Indians who lived in the area at the time.

The first governors name of New York was Delannoy, and was originally from Brabant. He is a direct ancestor of the famous president Franklin Delanno Roosevelt

The immigrants, through their courage and their dynamism, contributed to the forging of today's United States after very modest beginnings, in small block huts. They kept the traditions as transmitted by their elders. In the XIXth century they used the first trains. They pursued all trades, the ones of wood and forestry for instance and of sinai store keepers.

Little by little they prospered. They created nice domains and we notice that even before 1914, they became involved with, the Cotton Stock Exchange. They founded villages and adopted jazz with enthusiasm, these bloody Walloons who even exported their billiard (pool) - tables to the USA.

Jean Ducat tells how in 1842, the Luxemburgers established the city of Liopold in Indiana, which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1992 (named after the first King of the Belgians: Leopold I.) The pictures of the two first parish priests are carefully and lovingly kept Father Julien Benoit, and Father Auguste Ressonies, both Belgians.

It was the time when the immigrants, husband and wife, had to work hard to build their houses. And as they always liked fresh bread, they also built ovens and bake houses where they baked the large round ovals of bread, as they were accustomed to have in the Old Country but now from their own wheat flour. The pioneers still remembered their arrival on the site of their village Léopold, when in 1877 the energetic rather Hyppolyte Pierrard, originally from Ruilles, (about halfway between Florenville and Arlon) became the pastor.

The Walloon settlements were numerous also in Wisconsin, and in 1895 they erected a monument to commemorate their arrival in 1853 and the foundation of Robinsonville. There are so many typically Walloon farm houses in Wisconsin.

In The XIXth century the emigrants were attracted to the United States by posters announcing large tracts of land for sale to the South-West of New York. Before leaving, the courageous peasants from Luxembourg, Belg., sold all their possessions as testified by some notary acts of 1845, indicating two wheel-brows for 2,50 Frs., one heifer for 21 Frs., one time-piece 5,50 Frs., and three chairs for 1.90 frs... Once established in Wisconsin, they built their own churches, the architecture reminding of the sanctuaries they had left in Luxembourg and the Belgian Lorraine.

In 1845 Jean Weycker and his wife Anne Catherine Natty arrived in Wisconsin. They established the village of Belgium which later will have its own road station. In the village Belgium. Jean Weycker assumed the triple charges of mayor, judge and school-teacher, all of this with a rare devotion and competency.

In this XIXth century, Jean Ducat distinguishes four successive waves of Walloon emigration to America. The first from 1820 to 1844, they embarked on sail- ships and needed six weeks to cross the Atlantic ocean. These Walloons colonized the State of New- York, Indiana and Ohio. The second wave composed mostly of Walloons from Brabant, Namur and Luxembourg, embarked on steam-ships, and needed fifteen to twenty days to arrive in the United States. They settled in Illinois and along Lake Michigan. From 1863 to 1870, the sturdy Borains, (inhabitants of the Hainaut region around Mans called The Borinage, formerly an

important coalmining district, employing most of the area population came to work in the coal mines of Illinois and shortly after in 1871, the glass workers from Charleroi, who created the glass industry in Kansas, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia (Belgian Laces has published a complete set of articles, written by our regretted René Zabeau about the Belgians in the glass industry in West Virginia, see BL. Vol 15(1993) #55; Vol 16 ('94) #s591601 61; Vol. 17~95) #63/64)

After 1871, the children of the first Walloon emigrants went West by covered wagon, beyond the Mississippi, to build villages, to clear and cultivate new lands.

To appreciate the courage and the endurance of the pioneers, one has to read their letters, The grand daughter of Pierre Adolphe Graves writes: "Our parents didn't have any comfort. They lived in a one room cabin with a dirt floor. To protect themselves against wolves, the only window was placed very high in the wall. The only light they had where the flames of the fireplace or a smoking candle; for table and chairs just a few blocks of wood, and a tree stump,... and planks were used as beds. The water tar which they first had to dig a pit, or which we took from the river always had to be boiled...."

Thus were the very hard beginnings of our Walloon emigrants in the United States.

J Gerard and I. Gerard. L'Epopée des Wallonnes et des Wallons: Edition JR. Collet. 1997 (Chapter VI)

QUERIES

98.351 - Castin / Kestin Franz (Belgium) should like to get contacts with the line of descendants from Jean-François Castin, b. Jumet 1854, emigrating with wife Elise Mayni and daughters Alice, Aline, Marie, Rose and Julia. In Pennsylvania a son was born Harrison Castin. This name may have been changed to Kestin.

Franz Castin, 4 Ave Prince de Liege, B-1330 Rixensart, Belgium or to this office

98.352 - Felix / DeMuth/ Officer. Am looking for information on Marie Leonie Felix, b. 7 April 1885 in Kruike, Belg. d. 25 March 1958 in Piedmont, CA.. Her last known address was 1155 Harvard Road, Piedmont, CA. She married at least twice: 1st : - 7 De Muth, with whom she had one child, Albert De Muth. Albert's last known address in 1959 was 5510 Plumas Ave, Richmond, CA. After their divorce she married Andrew Officer, a native of Scotland. He died 1968. The had one child : Catharina Renilda Officer, she married James Arthur Bridges on Sept. 16 1951, on Treasure Island Naval Chapel, San Francisco, CA.. They had two children : Doriann and Drew Bridges.

Georgette Harding - 29229 Riley Road, North Liberty, IN. 46554.

98.353 - Van Wassenhove/ McCormick. I'm looking for information on the son of my Great Grandfather, who settled in Oregon and lived in Marion County. His name was Frank Van Wassenhove. He was married to Mans' Ellen (or Ellen Mary. The name is recorded both ways) McCormick of Scottish and Irish descent. They had four children Ellen,

Josephine, Elizabeth and Alexander, all born in the mid to late 1860's to early 1870's. I have tried to obtain birth certificates of the children, but no luck. I do have marriage dates of the girls and the names of the husbands. Alexander is a different story. The last entry about him is on the census of 1900, stating that he lived in St. Paul, Marion County, Oregon with his wife Elisabeth and a brother-in-law Walter Murphy. I hope to find information on the Western branch of my family, can anyone help, please! I still live in Michigan where Frank's parents settled upon their arrival in the States in 1844.

Michael E. Van Wasshova, 1740 5. Grove Rd 206 A
Ypsilanti, MI . 48108 or per e-mail:
kemp'Thaaps.kl tmi. us

98.354 - **Vrancken** Looking for information on and descendants of Jan Gustaaf Vrancken, b. 22 February 1877 in Kuringen, Hasselt (Belgium).. in.(date? - first name?) Convents also b. in Kuringen. Emigrated to the US in 1908, probably to one of the Northern States, close to the Canadian border.

Bert Vrancken - Stevoortweg 8 - 6-3840 Herk-de-Stad, Belgium - or this office.

QUERIES

To & FROM

To Sylvère Van Daele (Drongen/Baarle, Belgium) Thank you so very much for the help you have been in the past; I do appreciate every item you have sent me. I do look forward to additional correspondence with you in the future.
from Donald Van Houdenos (Milwaulde, Oregon)

To Mary Ann Defnet we all wish you good luck with your upcoming surgery. Get well soon, there are a whole lot of people wishing you all the best; you have always been one of the VIP's in the association, the source of information, a true collaborator to Belgian Laces. Hangkithere!

Grandma and The Family Tree

There's been a change in Grandma, we've noticed her of late. She's always reading history or jotting down some date. She's frackin' back The famEly, we'll all have pedigrees, Oh, Grandma's got a hobby, she's climbing family trees.

Poor Grandma does the cooking and now, or so he states, That worst of all, he has to wash the cups and dinner plates. Grandma can't be bothered, she's busy as a bee
Compiling genealogy - for the Family Tree.

She has no time to baby sit, the curtains are a fright
No buttons left on Grandpa's shirt, the flower bed's a sight.
She's given up her club work, the sehals on TV
The only thing she does nowadays is climb the Family Tree

She goes down to the courthouse and studies ancient lore,
We know more about our forebears Than we ever did before
The books are old and dusty. They make poor Grandma sneeze,
A minor irritation when you're climbing Family trees.

The mail is all for Grandma, it comes from near and far,
 Last week she got the proof she needs to join the DAR.
 A worthwhile avocation, to that we all agree.
 A monumental project, to climb the Family Tree.

Now some folks came from Scotland and some from Galway Bay,
 Some were French as pastry, some German, all the way.
 Some went west to stake their claim, some stayed near the sea,
 Grandma hopes to find them all as she climbs the Family Tree.

She wanders through the graveyard in search of date and name,
 The Rich, the Poor, the In-between, all sleeping There the same.
 She pauses now and Then to rest, fanned by a gentile breeze
 That blows above The Fathers of all our Family Trees.

There were pioneers and patriots mixed in our kilt and kin
 Who blazed the paths of wilderness and fought through Thick and Thin.
 But none more staunch than Grandma, whose eyes hght up with glee,
 Each time she finds a missing branch forte Family Tree.

Their skills were wide and varied, from carpenter to cook,
 And one (alas) the record shows was hopelessly a crook.
 Blacksmith, weaver, farn,er, judge, some tutors for a fee,
 Long last in tirm, now all recorded on the Family Tree.
 To some it's just a hobby, to Grandma Vs much more,
 She knows the joys and heartaches of Those who went before.
 They loved, they lost, they laughed, they wept, and now for you and me.

They live again in spirit, around the Family Tree

At last she's nearly finished as we are each exposed.
 Life will be he same again, This we all supposed!
 Grandma will cook and sow, serve cookies wilt, our tea,
 We'll all be fat, just as before that wretched Family Tree.

Sad to relate, the Preacher called and visited for a spell,
 We talked about the Gosped, and other things as well.
 The heathen toJk the poor and then -'twas fate, it had lobe,
 Somehow the conversation turned to Grandma and The Family Tree.

We tried to change the subject, we talked of everything,
 But then Grandma's voice we heard that old familiar ring.
 She told him all about the past and soon was plain to see,
 The preacher took, was neatly snared by Grandma and The Family Tree.

He never knew his Grandpa, his mothers was... Clark?
 He and Grandma talked and talked, outside it grow quite dark.
 We'd hoped our fears were grotmndless, but lust like some disease,
 Grandma's become an addict - she's hooked on Family Trees!

Our souls were filled with, sorrow, our heart sank with dismay,
 Our ears could scarcely believe the words we heard our Grandma say
 "It sure is a lucky thing that you have come to me,
 I know exactly how We done lit cdimb your Family Tree!

Also, Unknown - Submitted by Regine Brindle

PASSENGER LISTS – EMIGRANTS from FLORENVILLE & HERBEUMONT

Prepared by Micheline GAUDETTE and Howard THOMAS

Names	From	ar. Year/Date	Going to	Census
ANSAY Herbeumont				
ANSAY Jean	Florenville ar.	RI Natick		
ANSIE Josephine wdw 61- mother-in-law of HUBERT Ernest				
ANSIE Lea 19 boarder with HUBERT Ernest		1894	RI Warwick	1900
ARNOULD	Herbeumont	1898	RI Warwick	1900
BERNIQUE Ernile + Family	Florenville		RI	
BERNIQUE Joseph + Family	Florenville		RI	
BERTHOLET Joseph August + Family	Florenville		RI	
BERTRAND Jacques 54 farm laborer, Marg 45, Rene, Leonie, Julia		1890	RI Warwick	1900
BEVING Jean Baptiste + Family	Florenville		RI	
BISSOT François	Florenville		RI	
BLAISE Charles, Jean Baptiste	Florenville		RI	

BLAISE Corinne, see JARAUX François	Florenville		RI	
BLAZOT Jules + wife	Herbeumont			
BONTEMPS Jean Bte.	Herbeumont			
BOSCHETTI Isidore	Herbeumont			
BOULANGER	Herbeumont			
BOULANGER Alphonse	Herbeumont			
BOULANGER Desire 44 Weaver, Selina 40				
Lucia 15 Armand 13 Marcel	Herbeumont	1897	RI Warwick	1900
BOULANGER Joseph	Herbeumont	LC N 1868 Feb 12		
BRENY	Herbeumont			
BRENY Jh	Herbeumont			
BRIQUEMCNT Louis, Jules + Family	Florenville		RI	
BRUNEL Leon	Herbeumont			
BRUNEL Mathieu	Herbeumont			
BUCHE	Herbeumont			
BUCHE	Herbeumont			
CALANDE	Herbeumont			
CHAPELIER Michel + Family	Florenville		RI	
CHENOT Camille	Herbeumont			
CHINA Apolite 62, Augustine 56				
August 24, Leon 21, Ernestine 2		1892	RI Warwick	1900
CHINA Joseph, 26 weaver		1892	RI Warwick	1900
CHINA Celina 27 weaver		1891	RI Warwick	1900
CHINA Xavier retired Theresa 52				
Joseph 15 Eugenia 9		1892	RI Warwick	1900
CHRISTOPHE R..62 day laborer				
Delphine 50 Joseph Maria Sophie		1893	RI Woonsocket	1900
CHRISTOPHE Pierre	Florenville ar.		RI Natick	
CLOSTER Joseph		LC N 1868 Feb 12		
COLAS Alfred	Herbeumont			
COLSON	Herbeumont			
COLSON Adolphe	Herbeumont			
COLSON Alfred	Herbeumont			
COLSON Emile	Herbeumont			
COLSON Jean Bte.	Herbeumont			
CONDE Francois + Family	Florenville		RI	
COUPAN Constant	Herbeumont	LC N 1868 Feb 12		
CRAFT John from Pennsylvania, Virginia from Belgium		1883	RI Warwick	1900
DALIER Joseph + Family	Florenville		RI	
DAMAIN	Herbeumont			
DAMAIN Aired	Herbeumont			
DAMAIN Felix	Herbeumont			
DEGRAIDE Joseph	Florenville ar.		RI Harris	
DEGRAIDE Joseph	Florenville ar.		RI Artic Village	
DELEAU	Herbeumont			
DELEAU	Herbeumont			
DEIEAU Edouard	Herbeumont			
DELEAU Isidore	Herbeumont			
DELEAU Joseph	Herbeumont			
DELEAU Jules	Herbeumont			
DELEAU Leon	Herbeumont			
DELMOTTE Jules	Herbeumont			
DELOBBE Celine 69, children:				
John 41 weaver Marie A 36. Louis 27, Marie C 35		1889	RI Warwick	1900
DEMAIN	Herbeumont	1889	RI Warwick	1900
DEPREZ Jean Baptiste	Florenville		RI	
DESEZEE Desire 27 laborer, Marie 26				
Jean Bapt. 8		1887	RI Warwick	
DEVILLEZ Leon 53 plasterer				
Eliza 41 MELE Florenville		1890	RI Warwick/Natick	

DEVILLEZ François, Sebastien	Florenville		RI	
DEYBER	Herbeumont			
DUFOUR	Herbeumont			
DUFOUR Paul	Herbeumont			
DUPRE Louis 27 weaver, Marie 28		1895	RI Warwick	1900
EMOND Gustave	Florenville ar		RI Providence	
EMOND Joseph	Florenville ar		RI Providence	
ETIENNE Charles Alexandre	Florenville		RI	
FELIZAS Louis	Florenville		RI	
FISCHWEILER Albert 18, Lucy 17, Eugenie 14 (siblings of Louis)	Florenville			
FJSCHWEILER Gustave weaver (brother of Louis)	Florenville	1900		
FISCHWEILER Gustave 54 watchman wife Mary 45, Marie, Gus, Lucien, Felici		1893	RI Warwick	
FISCHWEILER Louis, 26 weaver Marie 25, Cyril 1	Florenville	1900	RI Warwick	
FORGEUR	Herbeumont			
FRANCOIS Jean Eugene			RI	
FRANCOIS Jeanne Clernence	Florenville		RI	
GAILLARD Joseph	Herbeumont	LC N 1868 Feb 12		
GAILLARD Prosper	Herbeumont	1900		
GAUPIN	Herbeumont			
GAUPIN Charles	Herbeumont			
GAUPIN Edouard	Herbeumont			
GIITAIRE Lucien Auguste + Family	Florenville		RI	
GOUVERNEUR J.B.				
GRAVIER Joseph 57 day laborer Marie 58 Emma, Achille, Julius		1891	RI Warwick	1900
GRAVIS Jean P28 weaver boarder with CHINA Joseph		1900	RI Warwick	1900
GRINGOIRE Charles	Florenville		RI	
GRINGOIRE François Xavier + Family	Florenville		RI	
GUERIN Hubert operator 47, May47 Je 21 Jul18, L16, H 11. LB. J	Romsee	1899	RI Woonsocket	Wood Ave
GUERIN Joseph 49 manufacturer Elaine 46 Edmond 20		1892	RI Woonsocket	1900
GUERIN Theophile 26 Elodia 30 (Canada) Eugenia Andriana born RI		1892	RI Woonsocket	1900
HALBARDIER Joseph, Alphonse + family	Florenville		RI	
HALEN Hubert	Herbeumont			
HALEN Jean Bte	Herbeumont			
HALEN Lucien	Herbeumont			
HALIN Jean	Florenville ar			
HENROTTE	Herbeumont			
HENROTTE	Herbeumont			
HENROTTE	Herbeumont	1886	RI Warwick	1900
HUART August 25 weaver, Catherine 24 came to US		1897		
HUART Charles 48 brick mason, Marie 42 Nicolas 25, FrankPl, Viola		1886	RI Warwick	1900
HUART John 52 stone mason, Mary 52 Alphonse, John, Eugene	Florenville ar	1886	RI Warwick	1900
HUBERT Ernest 35 weaver, Marie 28, Lucie, Lydia, Felix		1892	RI Warwick	1900
JACOB Adrien Louis + family	Florenville		RI	
JACOB Constant	Florenville		RI	
JACOB Desire	Florenville		RI	
JACQUE Eduart 31 fireman at mill Oda 28		1892	RI Warwick	1900